

## U.S. plans \$2.4b jet sale to Israel

WASHINGTON (R) — The Clinton administration notified Congress Monday that it plans to sell 25 advanced McDonnell Douglas F-15I fighter jets to Israel for \$2.4 billion. The plan, announced by the Pentagon and expected to be completed without opposition from Congress, will be larger than the initial project announced by Israel in January under which that government would have bought 20 of the jets for \$2 billion. The F-15I jets are one of the most advanced versions of the big company's F-15 fighters. The special 'I' model will include both air combat superiority and long-range ground attack capability for Israel's air force. Included in the proposed package are 25 sets of "Lantirn" navigation and targeting pods, which are mounted on the jets in give them all-weather ground attack capability over long distances. The Israeli air force already has older model F-15 fighter jets as well as U.S. F-16 jets. But the new models will allow the U.S. ally "to enhance its air-to-air and air-to-ground defence capability," the Pentagon said.

# Jordan Times

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## Fighter jets bomb Afghan capital

KABUL (AP) — Fighter jets belonging to Afghanistan's powerful Uzbek warlord bombed the shantied capital Monday, the first air raid in nearly three weeks. There were no immediate reports of casualties, but at least nine bombs were believed to have landed in a residential area, according to eye witnesses. Witnesses said the jets dropped six bombs in two sorties over the capital. Warlord Rashid Dostum and his ally, renegade Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatiyar, have been trying to topple President Burhanuddin Rabbani, whose forces have managed to hold on in key military sites. At least two bombs hit a strategic, Rabbani-held hill on the western edge of the city, said government officials. Another bomb landed on a Rabbani-controlled hill behind the residential neighbourhood of Wazir Akbar Khan in east Kabul. Most civilians have fled Wazir Akbar Khan, but it is still home to the International Committee for the Red Cross. Hours before the jet attack, the warring sides waged a fierce artillery battle in Kabul's eastern district. There were no reports of casualties. Few civilians still live in eastern neighbourhoods of Kabul.

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## Peacekeeping general reports to King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received at the Royal Court the commander of the peacekeeping forces in Croatia, Major-General Ghazi Al Tayeb, who briefed the King on the situation in former Yugoslavia and the role of the U.N. forces in maintaining peace and security. Gen. Tayeb said the Jordanian forces participating in peacekeeping operations in the Yugoslav republics were widely admired.

## Anani briefs U.N. media delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Information Minister Jawad Al Anani Monday received a media delegation currently visiting Jordan under arrangements by the Palestine Section of the U.N. Department of Public Information. Dr. Anani briefed the delegation on the latest developments in the peace process and Jordan's role in pushing the process forward to achieve a just and lasting peace in the region in accordance with U.N. resolutions. The delegation includes journalists working for major newspapers in 13 foreign countries in addition to three U.N. supervisors.

## Gulf oil spill cleanup halted

FUJAIRAH (AP) — Authorities Monday abandoned efforts to mop up a massive two-week-old oil spill, letting millions of gallons disperse in the open sea. Michael Sorros of the Greek cleanup firm Fairdeal said Fujairah port had given the order to stop cleaning the 40-kilometre slick created by a March 30 tanker collision in the Gulf of Oman. He said only about one-quarter of the 120,000-barrel spill had been recovered. Port officials, speaking in exchange for anonymity, said most of the remainder had washed out into the Arabian Sea.

## Fateh activist suspected of killing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Israeli army has detained a member of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fateh faction suspicion of killing an Israeli on Feb. 25, the day of the Hebron massacre, military sources said on Monday. They said Al Ra'i, 37, was captured at his home in Deir Al Balah refugee camp in the occupied Gaza Strip on Sunday. "He (Ra'i) belonged to Fateh organisation and he was transferred to investigation by security forces," one military source said. An elderly Israeli man was hacked to death with an axe in central Israel hours after the Hebron mosque massacre. Mr. Arafat's attacks on Israelis under a September peace deal with Israel. Some activists, angry at continued Israeli army pursuit and killing of wanted Fateh men, recently vowed to resume attacks in defiance of PLO orders.

## Iraqi leader pardons 4 jailed Romanians

BUCHAREST (R) — Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has pardoned four Romanians convicted of illegally entering Iraq in 1992, in response to a plea from Romania's President Ion Iliescu, the Romanian foreign ministry said on Monday. "Romania had made countless previous demarches for their release, even asking for their extradition," ministry spokesman Mircea Gionica told Reuters. Mr. Gionica named the four as Dumitru Danila, Nicolae Agachi, Florin Boiga and Gabriel Encea, saying the four men, in their early 30s, had been tried and convicted for illegally entering Iraq from Turkey two years ago. The Iraqi president signed their pardon on Sunday night, after seeing Mr. Iliescu's envoy Marcel Dinu, who delivered Mr. Iliescu's "humanitarian appeal, requesting the release of the four jailed Romanians," the state news agency Rompres said. Foreign ministry sources said the four had already been released from prison near Baghdad and were expected back in Bucharest on Tuesday.

# Peace process is in crisis, needs urgent effort — King

## Austrian president begins state visit, speaks of common vision, says Mideast is vital for Europe

By P. V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein warned Monday that the Middle East peace process was facing a crucial crisis and called on the United States to salvage the 29-month-old Arab-Israeli negotiations which he said were threatened by the disappointment of people who hoped to enjoy the fruits of peace.

In some of the strongest yet comments over the slow pace of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations over self-rule in the occupied territories and mounting violence there amid Israeli efforts to extract Arab concessions, the King said the region was slipping into an "abyss of despair and disaster."

The King, who was speaking at a joint press conference with Austrian President Thomas Klestil, reaffirmed that Jordan's resumption of peace talks with Israel was "contingent on resolving" the problem

that the Kingdom faces from the continued blockade of the port of Aqaba as part of the enforcement of the 44-month-old international sanctions against Iraq.

The King described the siege of Aqaba as an intolerable situation and a "treatment that has been directed at Jordan in particular and out of all countries in the region" despite the Kingdom's compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

"We cannot be distrustful on the one hand and humiliated as a people and yet continue to play this role that we have played sincerely and honestly," the King said.

"We will not bow to any unwarranted pressure from any court," said the King, adding that Jordan had "indication that the problem is being addressed."

"We hope to have a positive response soon," said the King. President Klestil, who arrived earlier in the day on a

three-day state visit, praised Jordan's commitment to peace. He described King Hussein as "a close friend... an anchor of stability in the region without whom there cannot be a solution to the Palestinian problem."

The Austrian president, making his second visit to Jordan in seven months, said Europe was ready to make large investments in the Middle East region, but businessmen needed peace and stability before they would commit themselves.

Dr. Klestil, speaking after a round of talks with King Hussein, said the monarch had told him that "the peace process has reached a point where the hopes of people were maybe too high and endangered by many expectations, and frustration is coming up here and there."

The euphoria sparked by the signing of the historic agreement between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion (PLO) in Washington in September has died down.

Conflicting interpretations and deep differences have delayed the implementation of the agreement and a rising wave of Israeli and Palestinian violence in the occupied territories has further eroded support for the accord.

Throughout his comments at the press conference, the King repeatedly warned that the peace process was imperilled. "There is no doubt that there is a crisis that has developed out of the expectations of people that have not been met as yet, not even in any degree so far," said the King.

The sense of alarm, the sense of despair is growing and that is causing a great deal of distress to the peace camp as such, and all those who believe in it wherever they are," he said.

He expressed hope that the U.S., a co-sponsor of the peace

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His Majesty King Hussein answers a question as Austrian President Thomas Klestil looks on during a joint press conference they held Monday at the Royal Palace shortly after a round of talks (photo by Yusef Al 'Aflani)

## King urges Yemenis to adhere to accord signed in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday received at the Royal Court member of the Yemeni Presidential Council and Assistant Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) Salem Saleh Mohammad and member of the YSP political office Abdul Aziz Al Dali who are on a tour of several Arab countries to brief Arab leaders on the political situation in Yemen.

King Hussein stressed the need for Yemeni political parties to adhere to the Yemeni reform and reconciliation agreement signed in Amman Feb. 20 to resolve political disputes in Yemen.

King Hussein also underlined Jordan's keenness to preserve Yemen's unity, democratisation process and develop-

ment, calling on all Yemeni political powers to unify their ranks to overcome the current crisis.

Mr. Mohammad expressed the Yemeni leadership's appreciation of the King's keenness on Yemeni unity and thanked King Hussein for his efforts exerted to enable Yemeni leaders to overcome the crisis.

A high-level Jordanian delegation is due to leave for Yemen soon to meet with the Yemeni leadership and to follow up on Jordanian efforts aiming to end the crisis.

The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor Marwan Al Qassem, the King's advisor Khaled Al Karaki and Yemeni Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abul Lahoom.

## Yemeni officers meet

Yemeni military leaders, whose rival units have clashed in recent weeks, met in Aden on Monday for the first time in months.

The official SABA news agency said Minister of Defence Haidham Qassem Taher, a southerner, and the northern chief of staff Brigadier Abdul Malek Al Sayani, met in what political sources said was their first such meeting in several months.

SABA said the meeting was within the framework of a committee entrusted with the implementation of military and security clauses included in the reconciliation accord signed in Amman.

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## PLO resigned to delay on Gaza-Jericho agreement

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) resigned itself on Monday to further delay in Israeli withdrawal to make way for Palestinian autonomy in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Chief PLO negotiator Nabil Shaath said he could even accept the end of the month as the target date for agreement on the details, as proposed by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

"If Mr. Peres says he is willing to respect the new target date, the date at the end of the month, fine with us," he told reporters during a break in PLO-Israeli talks in Cairo.

Signing by Wednesday, the target date which both sides said last month they would respect, was now impossible, he said.

"I feel that progress happened today despite a feeling of sorrow that we won't be able to sign tomorrow," he added. "There are still many things that need finishing and they

cannot be simply finished... it was important to finish on time because it would have provided credibility," he said.

Mr. Peres, speaking in Ankara on Monday, said: "As I understand, we have agreed that the target date will be the end of this month, April, and then I think there won't be needed much time to implement the agreement."

Mr. Peres added that the pullout could be finished shortly after negotiations are done. "So I hope when May will come, all of us will see spring time in political sense not just only in diplomatic one," said Mr. Peres, who was on a visit to Turkey.

Under the withdrawal pact — an important step towards a possible Israeli-Palestinian peace accord — the pullout from Gaza and Jericho was to be completed by Wednesday. Both sides have traded accusations of foot dragging, and the talks have stalled due to violence and disagreement over security issues.

Mr. Peres added that he had no plans to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. Israel is angry that Mr. Arafat has not publicly condemned last week's car-bombing that killed seven Israelis.

Since the pullout has not even started, the PLO at last had hoped to reach agreement by Wednesday on a plan for Israeli withdrawal and deployment of Palestinian police.

While Dr. Shaath said negotiators were making progress, he conceded "some substantive issues" remain undecided. "My estimate is that if we're going on the speed we are going now, maybe seven to 10 days will be just about enough" to reach agreement, he said.

Dr. Shaath said negotiators agreed to a deployment plan for Palestinian police Monday morning and were close to settling on a schedule for freeing Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

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## Compromise reported on Lebanese press bill

BEIRUT (AP) — Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was reported Monday to have reached a compromise with Lebanon's newspapers, averting a showdown with the freest press in the Middle East.

The reported accord strips the government of Lebanon of any powers to shut down a newspaper, magazine or weekly as was previously the case, leaving such a decision to the courts.

Several Beirut dailies said the accord was worked out in prolonged weekend meeting between Mr. Hariri and the chairman of Lebanon's newspapers publishers union, Mohammad Baalbaki, and the reporters association, Milhem Karan.

All three refrained from divulging more details of the agreement, but Mr. Hariri called it in an interview published by the conservative daily Al Liwa "a real revolution in favour of the press, a historic compromise."

The accord was scheduled to be finalised in a cabinet session Monday evening. It will then be referred to parliament, which will either vote it into law or reject it.

Al Liwa and Al Safir said the accord would strip the authorities of any powers to revoke the license of any daily or weekly.

It also strips the government of the right to suspend any newspaper or put any journalist in jail before trial and conviction, the newspapers said.

Mr. Hariri's government kicked up a storm of protest when it approved last week a new press bill that made articles provoking sectarian dissent or slandering heads of state punishable by up to three years' imprisonment and a maximum fine of 500 million Lebanese pounds (\$300,000).

The bill was denounced by Beirut's 11 dailies as condemning the press to death in peacetime after it survived the horrors of Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war. The uproar forced the government to reconsider the bill.

Monday's reports said the proposed penalty for slandering national and foreign heads of state or instigating confessional dissent was lowered in the new agreement to a maximum of two years in jail and a 200 million (\$185,000) fine.

All newspapers hailed the

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## NATO bombs Serbs again, but Gorazde siege continues

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) jets, brushing aside Russian anger, bombed Bosnian Serb forces around Gorazde on Monday for the second time in two days after Serb gunners renewed their assault on the Muslim enclave.

"NATO jets have engaged (Serb) military targets for about 20 to 25 minutes," said a U.N. military source, adding that the air raid began at about 2.15 p.m. (1215 GMT).

Before the second air strike, U.N. officials said Bosnian Serbs pounded Gorazde with artillery, tank and machinegun fire on Monday morning, wounding about 200 refugees housed in the town centre.

Before the NATO bombing was reported, U.N. spokesman Major Dacre Holloway said, "We are conducting air activity

with planes flying low overhead. We are trying to give them every opportunity to get the message but if they don't learn they will get the big stick."

Maj. Holloway could not confirm reports that NATO fighters had dropped flares earlier beside Serb tanks firing on Gorazde, but he did not rule it out, saying such action is a common warning tactic.

In Zagreb, a U.N. press information officer said: "We believe that the tanks were targeted this time."

On Sunday, two NATO F-16s dropped three bombs on a Bosnian Serb artillery command post following repeated warnings to halt an assault on the "safe haven" of Gorazde.

Despite Sunday's air strike, sniper fire hit U.N. offices housing military observers and aid workers on Monday, while

shelling wounded an estimated 200 refugees housed in a school in the town centre.

Lyndall Sachs, a spokeswoman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said: "Our colleagues reported there seems to be no let up in the situation outside and the situation in their assessment is extremely dangerous."

The latest air raid occurred just hours after Bosnian Serbs froze ties with the United Nations.

The first NATO attack came after Bosnian Serb forces overran government defences Sunday to reach the outskirts of the besieged town of 65,000, which lies 50 kilometres south-east of Sarajevo. It was the alliance's first attack on ground positions in its 45-year history.

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## Fierce fighting rages in Kigali as rebels close in

KIGALI, Rwanda (Agencies) — Fierce fighting was reported Monday between the Rwandan army and rebels outside the capital of Kigali, where five days of violence and looting has left bodies piling up by the thousands.

Hundreds of Westerners have fled Rwanda by air and in truck convoys, while others hid in fear for their lives. Hundreds of people looted aid warehouses. At a hospital in Kigali, the devastated capital, doctors said soldiers slaughtered at least 100 patients in their beds.

Relief officials estimate as many as 10,000 people have been killed in Kigali alone. The fighting — the result of a decades-old struggle between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups — has forced hundreds of Europeans and Americans to flee the country, many for neighbouring Burundi.

Fighting began after the presidents of Rwanda and Burundi, both Hutus, died in a suspicious plane crash on Wednesday.

The BBC, reporting Monday from Kigali, said fighting between the Hutu-dominated army and the mostly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front rebels was continuing in Kigali and in northern Rwanda.

Augustin Mukama, a Rwandan Patriotic Front official in Kampala, Uganda, told Africa No. 1 radio that rebel forces entered Kigali on Monday.

Mocatar Gueye, spokesman for the U.N. observer mission in Rwanda, said automatic weapons fire was heard throughout Kigali on Monday and there was shelling on the outskirts of the city.

Mr. Gueye refused to comment on a report that the U.N.'s commander in Rwanda, General Romeo Dallaire,

was trying to arrange a ceasefire. The Rwandan army and the rebels reportedly agreed on a truce Sunday, but Gen. Dallaire said nothing was signed.

The U.N.'s 1,900-man mission in Rwanda was monitoring a ceasefire negotiated last August as part of an attempt to establish a coalition government. But efforts towards forging such a government repeatedly failed.

Bursts of heavy machinegun clattered around streets soaked in the blood of rotting corpses and patrolled by roving bands of drunken soldiers.

U.N. sources said a shell hit a Kigali hospital late on Sunday, killing 27 people and injuring more than 100.

Top Rwandan rebel leaders said their forces comprised of two battalions were closing in on Kigali from three sides to

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## Israel seeks an end to dependence on Palestinians

GAZA CITY, occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — Until Sunday, Hassan Marouf thought that no matter what problems arose in the Arab-Israeli peace process, he would keep his 25-year-old job as a construction supervisor in Israel.

Then Israel's cabinet announced the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip will be sealed off from Israel indefinitely and 18,000 foreign labourers imported. The moves are intended to assuage security fears and break Israel's dependence on Palestinian labour.

But they created widespread despair among Palestinians, who viewed it as collective punishment that will create permanent unemployment and cut them off from Jerusalem, their religious, cultural and political centre.

Both Israelis and Palestinians predicted more violence. Major General Matan Vinai, Israel's southern commander, ordered troops back into refugee camps to deal with the anticipated violence, the Haaretz newspaper reported Sunday.

"I've never been so scared in my life. There were closures before, but I always knew I would go back to work," said Mr. Marouf, who has 10 children. "Now, I'm not sure I will have a job to go back to."

Over 120,000 Palestinians had jobs in Israel until March 1993, when a series of stabbing deaths inside Israel brought a strict closure and the number of work permits was halved. Fears of revenge

attacks after a Jewish settler killed more than 30 Palestinian workers in Hebron Feb. 25 brought another closure.

Pressure from construction and agriculture firms that rely on cheap Palestinian workers has forced such closures to be rescinded in the past. But each closure leaves fewer Palestinians with jobs in Israel.

The latest closure came after a suicide car bomber from the West Bank killed seven Israelis and wounded 45 last Wednesday, followed a day later by a Gazan who killed one and wounded four at a bus stop.

Both attacks, carried out by Palestinians from the occupied territories, were claimed by groups which oppose the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy accord and have vowed to wreck Israel's "independence day" celebrations Thursday.

Nabouh Dabbour, an economist who works at the Palestinian bureau of statistics in Jerusalem, said remittances from labourers who work or trade in Israel bring about \$7 million daily into the Gaza and the West Bank. He predicted unemployment would jump from 37 per cent to at least 50 per cent.

The cabinet approved bringing in 18,000 foreign labourers to replace Palestinians. Although Israel's unemployment rate hovers at 10 per cent, welfare checks tend to match the wages from the menial jobs Palestinians fill.

Social and Welfare Minister Ora Namir said the foreign workers, mainly from former

Yugoslavia and Thailand, will be given six month visas. In the three to five weeks it will take for them to be absorbed into jobs here, the ministry will employ soldiers and high school students to fill in the gap, she said.

There are already 8,000 foreign labourers in Israel, about 2,000 Thais in agriculture and 6,000 East Europeans in construction.

Some cabinet ministers said the closure could stay in place until Palestinian self-rule goes into an effect, something not expected for weeks. A pre-autonomy pullback of Israeli troops is expected to slow down.

While eager to be independent of Israel, Palestinians believe after 27 years of occupation they cannot survive an abrupt separation.

They also believe Israel is using the closure to draw borders that put Arab East Jerusalem inside its territory and out of reach for eventual talks on the status of all occupied territory.

Palestinians want a capital for their would-be state in East Jerusalem.

"Israel is trying through the closure to consolidate its hold on Jerusalem and face us with a fait accompli on the annexation of East Jerusalem," said Haasan Ashrawi, a leading Palestinian.

Hospital administrators in Gaza said the closure will affect dozens of patients who receive treatment in Jerusalem. Israel has said it would try to ease medical cases.



ENTRY DENIED: Israeli soldiers on Monday prevent Palestinians from entering the Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, site of a Feb. 25 massacre of more than 30 worshippers by a Jewish settler. Monday's confrontation led to clashes and at least four Palestinians were shot and wounded (see page one) (AFP photo)

## Would-be heir to Rabin makes a move

TEL AVIV (R) — A former cabinet minister touted as a possible successor to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin made a grab for the political limelight on Monday by announcing his candidacy to lead Israel's biggest trade federation.

Haim Ramon, 43, embarrassed Mr. Rabin, 72, in February by quitting as health minister after the cabinet withdrew Mr. Ramon's far-reaching bill for health care.

He appeared to burn his bridges with Mr. Rabin on Monday by saying he would challenge the prime minister's candidate in May 10 elections to head the Histadrut trade federation. The union has been a power base for the ruling Labour Party for decades.

"Last night I told the prime minister I had decided to run on a non-partisan list for the coming Histadrut elections," Mr. Ramon said.

Opinion polls show Mr. Ramon could win the Histadrut election, defeating candidates put up by Labour and the main opposition Likud Party.

A poll for Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper in February showed Mr. Ramon led all listed contenders to succeed Mr. Rabin if the prime minister and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, 70, stepped down as heads of Labour.

Political analysts forecast Mr. Ramon would be kicked out of Labour within days. Mr. Rabin had asked Mr. Ramon publicly to work for change from within the party, predicting that otherwise the young politician was destined for the political wilderness.

"I believe it would be a grave mistake in itself and for him. But he is a big boy already and he must make the decision for himself," Mr. Rabin told Israel Radio.

Mr. Ramon appeared to be following the example of recently elected mayors Roni Milo and Ehud Olmert, young politicians looking for high-profile jobs outside a parliamentary political arena long dominated by older men.

Mr. Ramon strongly backed Mr. Rabin's September peace deal with the PLO. At the news conference, the Tel Aviv-born lawyer focused on social issues and blamed the Histadrut and the government for widening the gap between rich and poor.

He said bad leadership at the Histadrut had soured many young Israelis on the organisation, whose once red-flagged building was nicknamed "the Kremlin."

Mr. Ramon said the union now represented 67 per cent of Israeli workers compared with 84 per cent a decade ago.

## Sudan sees possible U.S. intervention

NICOSIA (AP) — Sudan's ambassador in Teheran said Monday his country was prepared for the possibility of U.S. intervention in the civil war between the Islamic government and rebels in the south, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

"Although America's humiliating defeat in Somalia makes Washington's new adventurism a remote possibility, we are prepared to cope with any new situation in the south," IRNA quoted the envoy, Qutbi Al Mahdi, as saying in an interview with the Iranian weekly, Kayhan Havate.

Sudan is on the U.S. list of countries that sponsor "international terrorism," but Washington has given no indication that it intends to intervene in the conflict there.

Rebels from the south have been fighting the government, Western intelligence reports have accused Iran of providing military help and training for the Sudanese army.

Iran has been building a north-south road in Sudan, which could be used to facilitate the movement of tanks and heavy artillery into rebel-held territory.

## Slain general was key in Egypt's war on militants

CAIRO (R) — Muslim militants in Egypt have killed a leading but anonymous figure in the government's war against them in an assassination that suggested militants might have penetrated the security forces.

The militant Gamaa Al Islamiyah claimed responsibility, describing the victim as "one of the biggest executioners" and saying the same fate awaited his colleagues.

Reports said five attackers came at the victim, Major-General Raouf Khayrat, from two directions as he drove away from his house in the wealthy Cairo neighbourhood of Masahat on Saturday night.

Two men shot at him from a motorcycle and three others in a car threw a bomb which set Khayrat's car ablaze. His body was badly charred in the fire and it was not immediately clear whether he died from that or the shooting.

Militants in Egypt have now killed five police generals and mounted similar assassinations attempts on three ministers in the past year. But they have all been public figures travelling in high-profile motorcades.

General Khayrat, 53, was a secret operative in Egypt's intelligence war against the militants. He used a code-name, wore plain clothes and had no bodyguards in order not to attract attention, security sources said.

He had spent 20 years monitoring militant groups, starting long before they were considered a major security threat in Egypt, and headed a little-known section of state security called the department for combating religious activity.

In a faxed statement, the Gamaa said all its guerrillas returned safe from the assassination.

"The operation shows that the mujahideen will not hesitate for one moment to pursue the executioners however much they may try to disguise themselves and hide," it added.

It said the general had moved houses several times and drove his own car to give the impression he was ordinary.

"But all this did not save him from God's judgement. He died murdered and hurt just as they (police) assassinate youngsters unjustly and burn them with the dreadful fires of torture," it added.

Security sources said it was not exactly clear immediately how the gunmen had tracked down Khayrat to his house but the attack was another sign that militants might have penetrated Egypt's security forces.

It was an army lieutenant in an official parade who assassinated the late President Anwar Sadat in 1981. Last month, Egypt executed an army officer and two army conscripts for planting explosives at an airbase in readiness for a visit by President Hosni Mubarak.

The attackers escaped but abandoned the motorcycle some distance from the scene of the attack. Police said passers-by took the registration number of the car.

The attack also came as a reminder that militants could still operate beyond the southern province of Assiut, scene of most of Egypt's militant violence, despite police crackdowns and a string of military trials and executions.

The Gamaa has killed dozens of policemen in Assiut this year but its only recent operations in Cairo have been a series of bombings at banks which ignore the Islamic ban on usury.

Emergency law extended

President Mubarak issued a decree Monday renewing for three more years the emergency law that gives the government broad powers against extremists.

The decree requires parliamentary approval, but passage was virtually certain since Mr. Mubarak's National Democratic Party has an overwhelming majority.

Opposition party officials immediately criticised the move, saying the emergency law has actually led to escalating violence.

"Thousands of innocent people who were arrested because of such a law turned to violence because of their great feelings of injustice," said Abdul Hamid Barakat of the Islamic-oriented Labour Party.

The emergency law, adopted when Mr. Mubarak came to power after the slaying of President Sadat in 1981, has been criticised by Egyptian human rights advocates and international groups such as Amnesty International.

"The law allows the detention without specific charges and arrests under such vague accusations as suspicion of endangering public order. It also allows the president to reject court verdicts and order retrials."

Although the government maintains widespread arrests have curbed the extremists, several police are killed each week in the radicals' stronghold in southern Egypt.

## Investigators get two bullet types; Goldstein letter released

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli authorities have published the text of a letter left by gunman Baruch Goldstein at the site of the Hebron mosque massacre, in which he reportedly prayed to survive the shootings.

Hospitals meanwhile handed over to medical investigators two types of bullets which Palestinian doctors recovered from victims of the Hebron mosque massacre. The evidence could support earlier testimony and Palestinian contentions that more than one gunman was involved in the Feb. 25 slayings of more than 30 Palestinian worshippers.

A Muslim guard at the mosque also testified to Israel's inquiry commission that he asked soldiers to enter the mosque and stop the shooting but that they refused to do so.

Goldstein's letter, mostly typewritten with several lines in his handwriting, was found in the bag he brought with him to the massacre site. The IITM news agency said.

"A version of a brief confession from the bridge of life," the letter was reportedly entitled.

In it Goldstein thanked God, "in whose hands my recovery and death lie... may it be thy will to heal me, and if heaven forbid I shall die, my death shall be in repentance for all the sins I have committed against you."

"And may you grant me a role in the garden of Eden and the land of the righteous," the typed portion added.

The message ended with part of the "hear O Israel" prayer, which religious Jews utter several times daily. It ended with, "One Lord of the world... I shall not fear."

Palestinian physician Dr. Dahoud Lahadi said 25 medical files and two kinds of bullets

were turned over to the Israeli medical team that spent five hours Sunday in two Hebron hospitals. He said they also examined X-rays to determine where bullets hit victims.

A police ballistics expert told the inquiry commission last week that one bullet was found at the site that did not match the Gali automatic rifle used by Goldstein. Other bullets found were fired by soldiers' weapons, the expert said.

In its sixth week of testimony, the five-man inquiry commission panel also questioned three guards for the Waqf, the Muslim trust that operates religious sites. The guards were at the site, which tradition holds is the burial site of Abraham and other biblical figures.

Mohammad Abu Salah, a guard, told the commission that Goldstein pushed past him into the hall where Muslim worshippers were praying and opened fire.

Mr. Abu Salah raced to call soldiers for help but said they would not enter the hall.

"They heard me but refused to agree to what I requested. I told them that there was a settler firing, and they also heard the shots and they started shooting outside," Mr. Abu Salah said.

The guard then ran back to the hall and saw Goldstein change the clip. Mr. Abu Salah said Goldstein saw him and turned to fire two bullets at him.

Neither Mr. Abu Salah or the two other guards who testified saw a second gunman.

Mr. Abu Salah told the commission that the imprisoned Kach leader Baruch Marzel had tried to attack Muslims shouting "Kill the Jews" at the site the night before the massacre but was prevented from

doing so by soldiers.

Witnesses raised the possibility that Goldstein may have been motivated by the Muslims' threats the previous night by a door closed between two prayer halls that prevent Jews from praying in the area on the Purim holiday.

Goldstein's wife, Miriam, testified behind closed doors to the commission last week that she had no idea her husband was planning the massacre.

"It is still a puzzle, that's the truth," she said, according to a 30-page court transcript released Sunday. "I am continually trying to figure it out, but I still haven't found an answer."

She said her husband never mentioned problems at the mosque site, only complained in general about the government and military failure to "properly protect" the settlers.

Mrs. Goldstein demanded that the inquiry also investigate why there was a second bullet type at the site, suggesting her husband may have been fired on. She said many settlers could add information but had not been summoned.

"Perhaps there were other people who opened fire, and not especially on the Jewish side. Perhaps there were people who had other weapons, from another direction, I don't know," Mrs. Goldstein said.

Also Sunday, the settler council asked the head of the commission, Chief Justice Meir Shamgar, to investigate comments by Judge Abdul Rahman Zoubi published in the daily Maariv.

Mr. Zoubi, the only Arab member of the inquiry panel, was quoted as saying Jewish settlers were "the brutal side" in the occupied territories and he was surprised to find the soldiers had written orders not to open fire on them.

## Finally, bulls-eye for ethnic Cyprus reconciliation

NICOSIA (AP) — Peace envoys have come and gone, flummoxed at the futility of trying to bring Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots together to resolve one of the most stubborn ethnic conflicts in the Middle East.

But on Sunday, husbands of nominal enemies gathered here for an unconventional peacemaking bid, darts in hand.

"We came here to play darts and to prove that we can be together," said Mustafa Bolkaner, a used car dealer from the Turkish Cypriot half.

The first all Cyprus darts tournament was also the first major sporting event between the two communities since the east island gained independence from Britain in 1960, according to organiser Tom Thopoulos.

Forty Turkish Cypriot darts players and scores of friends and fans trooped through barbed-wire barricades at the U.N.-administered checkpoint to line up against 88 Greek Cypriot challengers at Nico-

sia's Hilton Hotel.

The tournament was intended to show that ordinary people — car mechanics and cooks, salesmen and secretaries — do not care much about the so-called "Cyprus problem," which day in day out dominates political debate on both sides of the fence.

"If you leave the politics aside, the people of Cyprus can get along quite easily because we're all children of the same country," said Turkish Cypriot wheat farmer Ali Kabakci.

Turkey invaded and occupied the northern third of the island in 1974, ostensibly to protect the Turkish Cypriot minority, following years of ethnic strife that started with independence.

More than 1,000 U.N. peacekeepers now patrol the green line, 180 kilometres of barbed wire cutting across a small island nation.

But while the peacekeepers have managed to prevent a major recurrence of violence, the rival communities have so far repudiated most peace

proposals brought by U.N. secretary-generals and U.S. and European diplomats.

The Greek Cypriots, led by President Glafos Clerides, refuse to recognise the Turkish Cypriots' breakaway state, proclaimed in 1983. The Turkish Cypriots, led by Rauf Denktash, say they feel safer with an estimated 35,000 Turkish troops to bolster their claim of independence.

But politics, let alone ethnic hatred, seemed all but forgotten by people who are taught to despise each other as they mingled and chatted like long lost friends.

"It's great to talk about where you're from, what it's like on the other side these days," said Greek pub owner Akis Souteriou.

Since the invasion, the only chance he and others have had to meet Turkish Cypriots was on trips to London, or New York, where many expatriates live as neighbours.

"The funny thing is that outside Cyprus out two communities have no problem," said

Mr. Souteriou. "We feel like brothers."

There have been earlier attempts to bring together intellectuals, artists and other influential figures.

But Mr. Thopoulos, a Greek dart shop owner, said that the darts tourney was the first such opportunity for ordinary, "blue-collar" Cypriots.

"At the end of the day," said Mr. Thopoulos, "these people are not the cause of the problem."

Dartboard diplomacy grew out of a modest idea of Australian peacekeeper Doug Child, who invited several players for a couple informal games in the U.N. buffer zone last year.

Sergeant Child, who's been posted back home, could not have known what a bulls-eye he had hit.

Hundreds of spectators and onlookers showed up for Sunday's marathon knockout competition organised by Mr. Thopoulos and Turkish darts lover Akin Kemal.

Many also volunteered in a blood drive for sufferers of

thalassaemia, or Mediterranean anemia, a hereditary disease among peoples of the region.

The bags of blood will be mixed to conceal the ethnicity of the donors and shipped to hospitals on both sides of the fence, the organisers said.

But not all attempts to keep politics out of the game found their target.

The use of the proper names, of the Greek and Turkish darts player's associations was banned, because that could be interpreted as a Greek Cypriot acknowledgement of Turkish Cypriot statehood.

In the end it was a clean sweep for the Greek Cypriots, who took home the trophies for first place and three runner-up.

But even before the start of play it was widely acknowledged the Greek Cypriots were stronger in the sport which the British bequeathed the island.

"It doesn't matter who wins," said Mr. Kemal, "because today Cyprus wins."

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 Envoy Special  
19:00 News in French  
19:15 Grand Galop  
19:30 News in Hebrew  
20:00 News in Arabic  
20:30 Cinema Cinema  
21:10 Moon Over Miami  
22:00 News in English  
22:30 The Cape Rebel  
23:10 The Second Half

### PRAYER TIMES

04:45 Fajr  
05:06 (Sunrise) Duha  
12:37 Dhuhr  
15:05 Asr  
16:11 Maghrib  
16:27 Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedfish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661737  
Terressance Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543

American Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

American International Church Tel. 625226

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811395

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
Relative warm weather conditions will prevail with winds becoming easterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman ..... Min./Max. temp. 12/28  
Aqaba ..... 18/36  
Deserts ..... 10/30  
Jordan Valley ..... 15/35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 32°C, Aqaba 30°C, Deserts 25°C, Jordan Valley 28°C

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 27, Aqaba 33, Humidity readings: Amman 9 per cent, Aqaba 17 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Nidal Dahleh ..... 827195  
Dr. Bassam Karadsh ..... 792200  
Dr. Yafya Abdul Salam ..... 736072  
Dr. Ghazi Abu Shikha ..... 752405  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Aseni pharmacy ..... 637055  
Naioukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salem pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeisani pharmacy ..... 637600  
Naioukh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Najib pharmacy ..... 847632

### IRBID:

Dr. Fayez Qadi ..... 248743  
Alquds pharmacy ..... (—)

### ZARQA:

Dr. Iqbal Omar ..... 901266  
Khalifeh pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 611111  
Civil Defence Immediate Response ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Fire Brigade ..... 627777  
Blood Bank ..... 75121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ..... 628800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repair ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661011  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 660100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Husseini Medical Centre ..... 813812/32  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. .... 644281/6  
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642562  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 843845  
Al-Mushref Hospital ..... 672279  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/7  
Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Al-Muhajirah ..... 77101/3  
Al-Basit, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/2  
Army, Marfa ..... 891617/5  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 686100  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Gov. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900540  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
Al Hilom Modern Hospital ..... (09)990990  
IRBID:  
Princess Beena Hospital ..... (02)225555  
Greek Catholic ..... (02)227275  
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital ..... (02)247100

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) international department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)  
04:10 Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)  
08:30 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
08:45 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
16:10 ..... Aqaba (RJ)



## Crown Prince encourages study of former education policies, new methods

By Natasha Bukhari  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday urged all educationalists to seek the country's best interest by developing an inclusive programme to cater for society's intellectual, social and economic needs.

"We need to reconsider the effectiveness of former policies to find their defects," said Prince Hassan at a seminar to assess the progress of the National Education Strategy charted in 1987. To that end he called on the participants in the "Educational Development — Second Stage" seminar to start reeducating themselves and develop awareness of the impracticality of bureaucratic policies in education and the need to implement methods of education that would provide a solid foundation for a "Jordanian school" that is capable of challenging external aggression.

"It is everyone's duty to work towards an all-encompassing aim for progress," said the Crown Prince. He also discussed the prob-

lems of unemployment among many of the country's youth and urged intellectuals to start a campaign to spread awareness of market forces in Jordan explaining the country's need for labour skills.

"This initiative is linked to our goals," said Prince Hassan, pointing to the country's responsibility towards economic reforms and its agreements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The Crown Prince stressed the need to "contain this problem" by ridding citizens of their complex concerning worthy professions and misconceptions of what a good education means.

Superficial assessments linked to quantity rather than quality govern people's choice of their line of education, he said, citing as evidence the number of unemployed lawyers and doctors in the country and the import of foreign labour.

Minister of Education Khaled Omari concluded the two-day seminar by presenting participants with 90 recommendations on improving the National Education Strategy.

The first session, Monday,

dealt with the reality of education in Jordan and discussed the need to improve standards of educationalists' training.

Ministry officials argued that lack of funds was a major obstacle to providing good training.

"Only 12 per cent of the ministry's funds is specified for operational programmes," said Dr. Omari.

The minister also touched upon reasons behind the failure of training programmes to achieve the desired results. He said that the ministry was hasty in implementing the programme and that it did not take its time in setting a strategy for proper implementation.

Mohammad Asaira, of the Ministry of Education, presented a paper discussing the administrative and technical difficulties of training programmes which mainly revolved around the lack of specialists compounded by financial restrictions that do not allow for providing technical equipment to aid the process of education.

The final paper of the seminar presented by Thoun-qan Obeidat addressed edu-

cational supervision, which he described as being full of contradictions and surrounded by obstacles.

He said supervisors received minimal training, and the achievements of supervisors were few.

Meanwhile, participants agreed that to implement a successful training and qualifying programme in the country, a new policy based on decentralisation should be adopted to make room for flexible arrangements to serve different areas based on priorities and the different needs of institutions in various parts of the country.

The two-day seminar was concluded Monday with what participants described as a feeling that vital issues on education were discussed and that a more progressive policy will be adopted for a more successful educational scheme that will help educationalists in their quest for the "right" formula for the country's progress.

"I am pleased with the level of interaction and feel that we now speak a common language, which will help us find solutions for our problems," said Dr. Omari.

## Economic council reviews 5-year-plan, focuses on unemployment, says Anani

AMMAN (Petra) — The Economic Consultative Council (ECC) Monday met to review the implementation of the 1993-1997 Five-Year Development Plan and focused mainly on the unemployment problem, according to Information Minister Jawad Anani.

Speaking after the meeting, held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Dr. Anani said that the council considers unemployment as one of the most dangerous issues facing the Jordanian economy and that the Council of Ministers has submitted a related working paper to the ECC in order that this problem be addressed in the five-year plan.

Unemployment problems require thorough debate because they span all inputs to the labour market, such as education and workers' need, said Dr. Anani.

According to the minister, Dr. Majali underlined the need to employ local workers in socio-economic development projects, stressing the importance of preliminary and appropriate vocational training.

He quoted the prime minister as saying that the government, in its bid to curtail unemployment, would introduce an amendment to the Labour



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday chairs a meeting of the Economic Consultative Council (Petra photo)

Law allowing for the establishment of an "employment institution."

Dr. Anani explained that this institution, which would be set up in cooperation with the private sector, should be able to provide information concerning the work force.

Furthermore, the prime minister has said that the gov-

ernment would utilise state funds to finance development schemes that would create job opportunities in the country, said Dr. Anani.

The minister also quoted Dr. Anani as saying that the state universities would be given a greater measure of independence and would be granted freedom in enrolling students.

The ECC session Monday, according to Dr. Anani, also tackled a number of questions related to Housing matters and scheduled another meeting early next month to follow up discussions on the unemployment question and to study a proposed taxation system in Jordan as prepared by economist Abdullah Al Malki.

## Turkey values economic ties with Mideast

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Turkish official held high-level talks here Monday over the Middle East peace process and bilateral relations and said later Ankara attaches much importance to developing economic cooperation among the countries of the Middle East.

Ozdem Sanberk, under-secretary of the Turkish Foreign Ministry, said his talks here also covered the strife in former Yugoslavia as well as the implications for Turkey and Jordan of the continuing international sanctions against Iraq.

"Since Jordan plays a crucial role in the ongoing Middle East peace process, the Jordanian side elaborated in detail this particular issue," Mr. Sanberk told the Jordan Times after talks with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan.

Describing the talks as very fruitful, the Turkish official said there were "no problems whatsoever between Turkey and Jordan on the bilateral level," and that "we opted with satisfaction that our visas concerning the international as well as regional issues are widely converging."

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Minister Hassan and Mr. Sanberk reviewed progress in the peace process and the implementation of

U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

Mr. Hassan briefed Mr. Sanberk on the continued siege on the port of Aqaba and reaffirmed Jordan's call for an end to the damaging inspections of all ships bound for Jordan.

In his interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Sanberk restated his country's stand that Iraq should abide by United Nations Security Council resolutions. "Iraq must adopt a clear stand to give confidence to her neighbour Kuwait," he said.

At the same time, he said, the embargo on Iraq continues to hurt the people of Iraq.

"It has also created a very heavy economic burden for Turkey," said the official, whose country has been calling for an easing of the sweeping 44-month-old international sanctions against its neighbour.

"The same problem also exists for Jordan," he said of the impact of the sanctions. "We hope that the point for lifting the embargo would be reached soon. Cooperation between Iraq and the U.N. must be intensified to this end."

"The U.N. long-term monitoring programme (of Iraq's weapons) must be put fully into practice without delay and be effectively implemented in order that the oil embargo is lifted," he said.

Answering a question, the Turkish official said the outcome of recent municipal elec-

tions in Turkey where Islamic activists put up a strong showing had no impact on the secular principles that the country was founded on.

"In the modern Turkey founded by Atatürk, Turks are devout, as always, and the religion is perceived as an individual choice, an individual realisation of oneself," he said.

"Islam is not reduced in its political dimension and ... the results (of the elections) reflect not the religious expression of the individuals but their political preferences within the normal functioning of a multi-party democratic system," Mr. Sanberk said.

He said Turkey, which is waging a war against the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) in the southeast, "welcomes" the PKK's "neighbours" to abide by their commitments not to give shelter to those who resort to indiscriminate separatist violence.

The official conceded that the Kurdish problem has led to disputes between Turkey and some of the European countries which have accused Ankara of violating human rights in its battle against the PKK.

But, he said, several countries have in Europe as well as the U.S. itself "declared" (the PKK) a terrorist organisation, and France and Germany had banned PKK activities in their territories.

"It is obvious that terrorism is a gross violation of human rights and is aimed at the same time at the destruction of fundamental aspects of freedom and democracy," he said.

Mr. Sanberk said Turkey expects the Middle East peace process to create a better atmosphere for regional economic cooperation.

In this context, he said, a "peace pipeline" project — which will bring Turkish water to the Gulf states and others in the region — "is still on the table."

"It can only be materialised should the countries of the region see its realisation in their interest and effectively participate in their realisation," added Mr. Sanberk, in an apparent reference to the financing needed for the project.

When it was first proposed several years ago, the project was estimated to cost about \$12 billion. Revised estimates put the cost at between \$15 million and \$20 million.

In Ankara on Monday, visiting Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Turkish and Israeli experts would look into the possibility of various projects for the shipment of water from Turkey to Israel. One idea is that water from Manavgat River could be carried in plastic containers and floated on the Mediterranean to Israel.

## Limited water sources, population needs form dangerous imbalance, says minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Hisham Al Khatib Monday said Jordan's limited surface and underground water sources have caused an imbalance in the equation of sources in population.

The Kingdom's water

sources are clearly unable to cope with the population growth and the vertical expansion in farming and industries, said the minister in opening a meeting by the committees implementing two U.N.-funded projects in the Middle East region.

Dr. Khatib said over-

pumping and over-use of water resources is endangering the existence of these water sources in the region.

He said Jordan is conducting field studies and exploring new water sources and developing existing ones in order to meet increasing demands.

Referring to the U.N.-funded projects, he said these schemes are of major significance because they aim at further bolstering relations among nations of the region through the exchange of information which, he added, would ultimately lead to the

establishment of water data bank.

Delegates represented on the committees come from Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Morocco, Tunisia and Algeria.

The two U.N.-funded projects deal with the management of water resources and the management of a regional network for water and irrigation.

The U.N. regional coordinator for the projects, Kamel Zawadeh, told the meeting that the first project, which would take four years to implement, was expected to cost JD 1.154 million.

## Georgian team seeks trade office site

By Ian Atallah and Elia Nasrallah

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Amman is one of three potential sites for the location of the office of Georgia's trade representative to the Syrian-Palestinian region, according to sources at the Amman chambers of industry and commerce.

"This is very important for us. Georgia is on the Black Sea, and through them we can conduct a good deal of trade with the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)," said Abdul Noor Habaybeh, the secretary-general of the Amman Chamber of Industry.

"Only a few countries have ports on the Black Sea, and having Georgia's trade representative here would facilitate transport in that region as well as trade," said Mr. Habaybeh.

A delegation of four Georgian representatives, headed by Vasil Chichinadze, who is an economic advisor to Georgia's President Eduard Shevardnadze, visited Jordan on Sunday and Monday as part of a three-country tour that includes Lebanon and Syria.

Mr. Habaybeh said the Georgian government aimed to open the trade office for the region by the beginning of June, and that the other potential sites were in Lebanon and Syria.

"The Lebanese are ahead of us," said Mr. Habaybeh. "The Georgians have already come from there with promises from the Lebanese government in hand. We have to contact our own government ministers."

But, he said, Amman still had a "good opportunity" to be the site for the trade office. "And I believe we should give them the neces-

sary facilities to attract them," said Mr. Habaybeh. Available statistics show that currently trade between Jordan and Georgia is almost nonexistent, said Faten Hattar, the head of the Research Department at the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC).

Still FJCC researcher Odeh Swiss, who met with the delegation, said the Georgians appeared to be "wanting to open up a new era of economic relations with the Middle East region."

According to Amin Hussein, secretary general of the FJCC, Georgia also hopes to initiate trade, tourism exchanges and joint ventures through such a trade centre.

Georgia produces wood products and steel and boasts tourist attractions on the shores of its Black Sea; it also hopes to attract Jordanian businesspersons to launch joint ventures in farming and industry by benefiting from Georgia's inexpensive labour force, said the FJCC chief.

Mr. Hussein said he briefed Mr. Chichinadze on the climate of investments in the Kingdom and the incentives which the government offers to investors.

Mr. Habaybeh said that the Chamber of Industry had also discussed with the Georgians the possibilities of opening up a Jordanian trade centre in Georgia and staging exhibitions of Jordanian commodities in the country.

Besides the Amman Chamber of Industry and the FJCC, the Georgian team held talks with officials at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

The group leaves Jordan today, said Mr. Habaybeh.

## Veterinarians to stage 1-day sit-in, demand 90% professional allowance

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanian Veterinarians are expected to hold a brief sit-in today to back demands for better pay and are planning a full-day strike on April 23 if their demands are not met by then, according to Jordan Veterinarians Association (JVA) President Ahmad Ajlouni.

Dr. Ajlouni told the Jordan Times that 150 veterinarians employed by the government, and backed by colleagues from the private sector which employs 300 veterinarians, will stage a march from the Professional Association Complex in Shmeisani to the Prime Minister's office at the Fourth Circle, where the association plans to hand over its demands to the

government. The JVA is asking for a 90 per cent professional allowance up from 60 per cent.

"We have been pressing this demand since 1992 to ensure that veterinarians get allowances on the same footing with their colleagues in the medical, dentistry and engineering professions employed by government agencies and municipalities in Jordan," said Dr. Ajlouni.

"The previous government of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker had promised to address our grievances, but nothing was done, and under the present government we made a similar request and were promised that a solution to the problem would soon be forthcoming," said Dr. Ajlouni.

"Indeed we had originally planned a sit-in on Feb. 6, 1994, but were promised by Deputy Prime Minister Maan Abu Nowar that the problem was being settled as the Civil Service Commission (CSC) has recommended to the finance ministry to pay us the full allowance which would cost the treasury JD 50,000 a year, and so we deferred the sit-in, but to no avail," said Dr. Ajlouni.

Warning that the national economy would be badly hit, Dr. Ajlouni said that a large sector of the supply market and the poultry industry are among the main sectors to be affected by a veterinarians' strike.

"An importer of meat called me today to say that a large

shipment of fresh meat was arriving in Jordan Tuesday; but with the vets sit-in a great deal of harm would be done to the meat market," he said.

Representatives of other associations will support the veterinarians in their sit-in and their strike later this month, according to Dr. Ajlouni.

He said that the JVA, which was established in 1972, is resorting to union action for the first time, and after exhausting all other avenues to ensure the rights of its members.

"Should the government fail to respond favourably to our demands," he warned the association board would hold an emergency meeting to decide on an open-ended strike which could have a "devastating effect" on the economy.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### DRAMAS

- ★ Shakespeare's play "The Taming of the Shrew" at Al Hassan Ben Talal Auditorium, University of Jordan at 5:00 p.m.
- ★ Comedy entitled "A Touch Of Spring" (to be preceded by a cocktail and dinner party) at the Hotel InterContinental at 7:30 p.m.

### TV5 EUROPE PROGRAMME

- ★ Television programme in French entitled "L'Heure De Verite" at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Paintings exhibition by Jordanian and Lebanese artists Jamal Khamis and Jehad Abu Suleiman at Alia Art Gallery (9:30 -13:30, 15:00-18:00) (Tel. 639303).
- ★ Graphics exhibition by artist Burhan Saleh Mohammad at

### the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel. 695291).

- ★ Book exhibition at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road.
- ★ Engraving exhibition by artist Jean-Pierre Pincemin at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition entitled "Modern and Old Ceramics and Glass" by artists Hamed Rashed and Iman Khalifeh at Goethe-Institut.
- ★ Exhibition by German artist Allona at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Photo exhibition entitled "Spring Breezes From Jordan" by Dr. Zahar Mohsen at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at the Italian Language Centre (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) (Tel. 669348).
- ★ Exhibition by Egyptian artist Shalabi Ibrahim at Baladna Art Gallery (Tel. 678589).
- ★ Exhibition of spring paintings by Dr. Ali Al Ghoul at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).

### NEWS HOUR

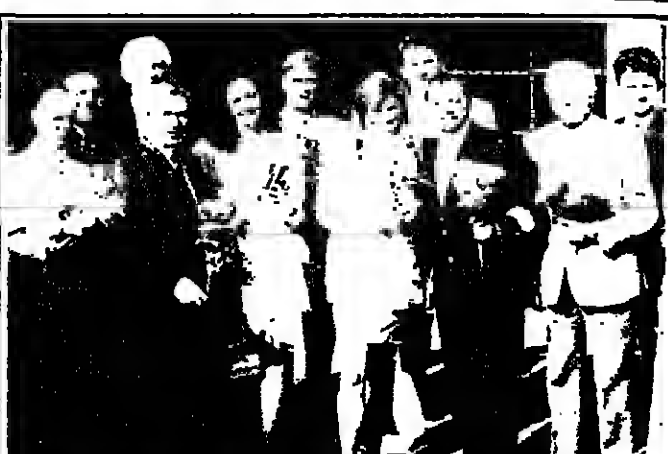
- ★ ABC Weekly News Highlights and the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour at the American Center at 5:00 p.m.

### POETRY RECITAL

- ★ Poetry recital by poet Ahmad Al Khatib at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:00 p.m.

### LECTURES

- ★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "Can We Set a New Arab Strategy After the Gulf War Disaster?" by former Syrian Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Ahmad Abdul Karim at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.
- ★ Lecture entitled "Elections in Germany" by Mr. Hermann Weingartz at Goethe-Institut at 6:30 p.m.



A TOUCH OF SPRING: The British Airways Theatre cast of "A Touch of Spring" beams with the season's fresh-cut blossoms for a photo opportunity. The troupe will be on stage for three nights beginning tonight to perform a comedy which producer Derek Nimmo calls a "gentle love story of two people under adverse circumstances." The curtain will go up at the InterContinental Hotel.

**YVES SAINT LAURENT**  
variation  
Summer 1994  
**Badia Boutique**  
Extension of Rainbow St. - Safadi Mosque  
Tel: 657094







## Peace process in crisis — King

(Continued from page 1)

process launched in Madrid in October 1991, "will realise how dangerous and difficult it is ... that it is difficult for all those concerned."

"We have to have the vision, we have to have the determination (and) we've got to have the help to move beyond this point, and on clearly defined lines towards a comprehensive settlement and towards resolving this problem once and for all; not on one track alone, but on all tracks as soon as possible," the King added.

"We are at a very critical moment now," said the King. "Many of the hopes and aspirations of so many on either side of the divide were raised at a certain point are now passing through a critical phase of wondering where it is leading to," the King said.

"I hope that we will see renewed efforts, serious and determined ... (and) all will react to save the peace process from what will be a disaster that is looming ahead. I hope that the United States of America and our friends in the world and certainly those immediately involved will realise that we are passing through a very difficult moment right now."

"It is worth looking into alternatives because if this fails, then what is there except

disaster for all?" said the King.

President Klostil announced at the press conference that his country would host a conference of the three major monotheistic religions — Islam, Christianity and Judaism — by the end of this year. The conference is mainly aimed at setting "the principles" for an inter-faith dialogue, and it is possible that the issue of Jerusalem will be raised during the forum, he said, adding that Austria was not the organiser of the meeting.

The King described as "very worrisome" the developments in former Yugoslavia, where North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) planes on Sunday and Monday bombed Bosnian Serb positions besieging Muslims. Noting that Jordan has contributed the second largest force to keeping peace in the troubled region, the King expressed hope that "the suffering of people" there would end soon.

President Klostil, whose country chairs the multilateral working group on Middle East water sharing, promised that Austria would continue to help the peace process.

In the bilateral context, he said Austria stood ready to offer its expertise in the areas of water and energy to Jordan.

Asked whether he felt confident that talks during his cur-

rent visit to Jordan would lead to concrete joint ventures, Dr. Klostil said: "The precondition is that there is a feeling that there will be peace and stability in the future."

"Europe, I am sure, will take its share because peace and security in the Middle East means peace and security for Europe; tension in the region means tension for Europe. There is an absolute principal interest."

The King hosted a state dinner in honour of President Klostil later Monday.

In speeches at the dinner, both leaders praised Austrian-Jordanian relations and expressed hope that Vienna-Amman cooperation would continue to grow.

The King reaffirmed his commitment to democracy and said Jordan's drive in this direction "is a true embodiment of our firm adherence to the values of freedom, equality and regard for human rights."

He said Jordan was committed to achieving a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East based on the "application of resolutions based on international legitimacy."

The King said real peace could not be outlived "in the absence of development and a decent standard of living."

"The people of our region

look to the international community — and especially the countries of Europe — to play a role in promoting economic development as a major cornerstone for a real and lasting peace," the King said.

In his speech, President Klostil said Austrians held the King in high esteem and attach special importance to their country's relations with Jordan. "Despite their geographical distance, both our countries have some remarkable features in common," he said. "Both are medium size and are located in sensitive regions prone to the influence of outside powers."

"Therefore, both our countries have always advocated negotiations and compromise as means to resolving conflicts, and cooperation and moderation as means to avoid them," he said.

Following are major excerpts from Dr. Klostil's address:

"Austria is proud of its historical ties with the Arab and the Islamic world. My country was the first in Europe to recognise Islam as an official religion. To this very day, we are promoting the religious dialogue. At present, there are almost a quarter of a million Muslims living in Austria, among them about 70,000 refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Next December, Austria will host a dialogue conference on 'The Europe of

Religions," bringing together representatives of Christianity, Islam and Judaism.

"It is against this background that Austria follows very closely events in the Middle East and takes an active part in contributing to a just and durable peace in the region. In the past, Austrian statesmen have played important roles in that regard. Let me just mention the names of Mr. Bruno Kreisky or Mr. Kurt Waldheim. As president of Austria I feel fully committed to their noble cause — knowing quite well that peace in the Middle East is also a prerequisite for peace in Europe and the world."

"Today, Austria participates in the peace process on the multilateral level seeking solutions to the regional problems of water, economic development, refugees and the environment. We will also continue and intensify our cooperation with the Arab World and our Jordanian friends in particular by strengthening economic ties, promoting industrial development and examining a wide range of possibilities for further cooperation in areas like science and culture."

"One of the most promising fields is tourism where Austria possesses special expertise and where Jordan has a great potential which could be exploited to the benefit of the country."

## PLO resigned to delay in agreement

(Continued from page 1)

Another PLO delegate, Mohammad Dablan, said 8,500 prisoners were being discussed, compared to more than 10,000 that Palestinians earlier had said Israel was holding.

Dates for deploying the police still depended on setting when to sign an implementation agreement, Dr. Shaath said.

He said progress also was being made on legal jurisdiction, an issue that he had said last week could stall the talks completely. He gave no details but said Israel eased its insistence on having legal jurisdiction over Jewish settlers and foreigners even when they are in Palestinian autonomous areas.

"The change is giving up some of the horrible claims about jurisdiction that would have really made it impossible for us to sign," Dr. Shaath said.

The PLO had been pushing to meet Wednesday's deadline since missing an earlier target, Dec. 13, for the start of Israel's withdrawal, led to disillusionment among Palestinians over the entire peace process.

Dr. Shaath said achieving Wednesday's target could have given people in the territories renewed hope that the agreement really would lead to Israel's withdrawal.

"This thing is very heavy on my chest," he said, "I think it was important to finish on time

because it would have provided credibility to the rest of the agreement."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the PLO would be to blame if both sides did not meet the target date for full implementation of the Gaza-Jericho accord.

"We didn't suspend the agreement in the wake of Palestinian terrorism against us. He (Arafat) suspended the negotiations after the massacre in Hebron and therefore the responsibility for the loss of time is not on us," Mr. Rabin told Israel Radio.

Calling the Afula car-bomb attack an "abominable crime," Mr. Rabin emphasised it would not force Israel to suspend peace talks despite daily right-wing Israeli protests.

The PLO condemned the Afula attack but Mr. Rabin, who immediately and vehemently had condemned the Hebron massacre, criticised Mr. Arafat for not personally commending.

"I think it was a serious mistake on Arafat's part that he did not condemn it. (But) his behaviour is not a criterion for the behaviour of the government of Israel and therefore I do not think the right way is stopping negotiations," he said.

Mr. Rabin said he did not believe the closure of the territories — which prevents about 60,000 Palestinians from coming to work in Israel — would

harm negotiations in Cairo. "I think we have the right to worry about our security," Mr. Rabin said when asked about the closure.

### Economic deal next week

In Paris, Israel and the PLO said they expect to conclude an agreement on economic relations between Israel and the future self-governing Palestinian territories next week.

Israeli Finance Minister Abraham Shohat and PLO Economics chief Ahmad Qouria said in a joint statement they had made positive progress in the latest round of economic talks in Paris, due to end early on Tuesday.

"The chairman added that even though there are some significant differences to be resolved, they believe that the next meeting which will take place next week in Paris will be the concluding round," the statement said.

It said the two delegations were "in the stage of finalising an agreement" on most of the issues covered by the talks, including agriculture, labour, industry, banking, insurance, direct and indirect taxes and trade relations.

Delegates said the main differences were over Palestinian demands to set lower customs duties than Israel for key imports, including basic foods, construction materials and machinery.

## Fierce fighting rages in Rwanda

(Continued from page 1)

take over and restore order in the chaotic city.

"Those two battalions on the outskirts are just a vanguard of a much larger force," a Rwanda Patriotic Front commander, Wilsoo Rotayisire, told Reuters. He added that the front had taken over significant amounts of territory since fighting broke out last week.

Reports said tribal bloodletting sparked by last Wednesday's killing of the president had also spread to the countryside, where rebels have relaunched a three-year civil war.

Spanish missionary nuns in the western Rwandan town of Kibuye said the town's hospital had been attacked and gangs were "killing all over the place."

"They have already killed

some of our patients," she said. "We have just received general abortion, the parish priest came," one nun told Spanish radio.

She said the gangs, thought to be members of the majority Hutu tribe, had moved on to the parish church to kill terrified members of the minority Tutsi tribe who had taken sanctuary there.

"They are also killing refugees in the town hall," she said.

Residents in Kigali reported the city relatively calm overnight on Sunday. But they awoke to the sound of fighting near the international airport on the city's outskirts.

"Talk of a ceasefire is absolute rubbish. It's complete mayhem here," said one resident.

One of the rebels' top commanders said the rebels were now determined to end the "government of killers" and appealed to army units not involved in the ethnic slaughter to desert.

The interim government was announced a few days after the slaying of President Juvenal Habyarimana, but was immediately rejected by the rebels.

Habyarimana's death in a rocket attack on a plane returning from a regional peace conference reignited age-old strife between the Hutus and the minority Tutsi tribe.

Those killed included the prime minister and several cabinet ministers, all Tutsis, as well as African nuns, priests and aid workers and 10 Belgian U.N. soldiers.

Many victims were buried

alive because there were not enough doctors to check whether they were actually dead. Some were unconscious, others, their throats cut, were unable to speak.

The army said rampaging troops, from the Hutu tribe, had been called back to barracks and said it supported the interim government's efforts to regain control of the situation.

In Kigali, Eric Bertin, a coordinator for the French humanitarian group Doctors Without Borders, said patients at the central hospital who he and colleagues had treated Saturday were killed that night by soldiers.

He estimated that at least 100 people were murdered, many in beds in tents set up around the hospital.

"We have decided it is no use to work here anymore," Dr. Bertin said. "It is useless to cure someone who is going to be killed anyway. They were just lying in their tents dead."

Gangs armed with knives, guns and machetes went house to house at night demanding food, money and alcohol, according to foreigners who fled Kigali.

French troops were in control of the Kigali airport. A dozen cars were parked outside the airport, left by people who fled the city.

About 250 of the 900 Belgians living in Kigali had been evacuated by Monday afternoon. The first 89 arrived in Brussels early Monday.

Belgian Defence Minister Leo Delcroix said the 900 Belgians in Kigali could be evacuated within four days, but it could take 10 days or longer to evacuate the 600 Belgians living outside the capital.

"It's a jolly mess," said Col-

onel Emonts Galt, a Belgian army spokesman. "As far as I know, they're (rampaging Rwandan military and armed youths) killing maybe 1,000 a day."

President Clinton said Sunday in Washington that "the last of the convoys containing all Americans who wish to leave has either passed into Burundi or is about to pass into Burundi." About 330 U.S. Marines were in Burundi to aid fleeing Americans. About 250 Americans, mostly missionaries and aid workers, were in Rwanda.

By Monday evening, 620 French nationals had left Rwanda with a "very reduced number" remaining, said French foreign ministry spokesman Richard Duque in Paris.

Fires burned on the outskirts of the capital and the Red Cross said there was looting in the city. Radio France International said the stocks of the Red Cross and World Food Programme had been plundered.

The report said hundreds of civilians left the warehouses carrying bags on their heads or driving overloaded vans.

Patrick Gasser, deputy head of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kigali, told the AP by telephone that more than 1,000 bodies were piled at the city's central hospital.

The Red Cross has asked people to dig mass graves, he said.

"I don't find words — the weather is nice, it's green, the lovely scenery, but you have all this violence in front of your eyes, with victims in the back of your vehicle," he said.

## Israeli troops wound 4

(Continued from page 1)

The heart of Hebron shut down again when almost 300 Palestinians took to the streets, demanding the reopening of the mosque closed since the slaughter. Mr. Natshe was among the crowd caught up in tear-gas fired by the army.

An Israeli government spokesman said 60 observers would actually be based in Hebron. The remaining 100 will do administrative work and could live outside the city.

The visit came while the fallout from violence reverberated across Israel and the occupied territories.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview on Israel Radio, criticised PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat for not speaking out against attacks last week that left eight Israelis dead and over 50 wounded.

"I think it was a grave mistake on the part of Arafat that he did not condemn," Mr. Rabin said, adding that despite the PLO's behaviour Israel would continue negotiations on implementing Palestinian self-rule in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank region of Jericho.

Opposition parties called a special Knesset, or parliament, session to protest the lack of security.

Dozens of Jewish settlers attempted to block a main road in the West Bank's Jordan Valley, just north of Jericho. The protesters are angry that a bypass road around Jericho has not been completed and they are exposed to Palestinian stone throwers when driving through town.

Army radio reported scuffles with soldiers and one settler arrested.

About 20 Palestinian doctors, including negotiator Ghassan Khatib, protested after they were not allowed through the main checkpoint stopping Palestinians entering Jerusalem from the northern West Bank. The Israeli cabinet on Sunday announced the two million Palestinians in the occupied territories would be barred from entering Israel until further notice, and 18,000 foreign labourers imported to replace some Palestinian workers (see page 2).

In Gaza on Monday, undercover units and army troops arrested eight Palestinians in the town of Jabatiya.

It was not clear why the men — four brothers, their nephew and three of their cousins — were rounded up.

But the three brothers, carpenters Naser Marouf, 32, and Yousef Marouf, 24, and labourer Mustafa Marouf, 30, were known as sympathisers of Hamas.

Also Monday, the body of a fabrics merchant, Fawzi Ghahani, 33, was found in Gaza

City. Hamas wrote in a leaflet found near the body that it killed Ghahani as a suspected collaborator with Israel.

The killing brought to at least 821 the number of Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs since the December 1987 start of the uprising. Most slain were accused of being informers, but the charge is often used to cover personal disputes.

The Israeli supreme court on Monday agreed to review the army's open-fire orders in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, responding to an appeal by a reserve soldier who asked the regulations be tightened.

Reserve soldier Yoav Hess asked that the rules be tightened so soldiers may only shoot if their lives are in immediate danger. Under existing regulations, troops can open fire without warning at any armed Palestinians, even if there is no direct threat.

The three-to-two decision came two years after the high court refused to bear a similar appeal, saying the issue was not within its jurisdiction. The court cited Mr. Hess' personal stake in the case as a reserves soldier in its decision to hear the case.

The army's shooting orders have come under intense public scrutiny during five weeks of hearings before a commission of inquiry into the Hebron mosque massacre, which includes two supreme court judges. Soldiers told the panel they were under orders never to shoot at Jewish settlers, even if the settlers shot to kill unarmed Palestinians.

The army denied such a blanket ban existed.

Civil rights attorney Avigdor Feldman welcomed the court's decision. "I'm glad that the supreme court... has ordered an investigation of the legality of the orders, an issue that has become very timely since the hearings of the commission of inquiry," Mr. Feldman told Israel Radio.

Mr. Feldman represents Mr. Hess, a peace activist and member of the group "Yesh Gvul" (there is a limit) which assists soldiers who refuse to serve in the occupied territories.

In other developments Monday, court sentenced a Jewish settler to 21 months in prison for shooting to death a Palestinian taxi passenger six months ago.

In the incident, Caesar Mendes opened fire as the taxi approached a settler roadblock outside the militant West Bank settlement of Kiryat Arba, killing one of the passengers.

Mendes claimed he was afraid the taxi planned to run him over as part of an attack by Palestinians. The driver said he wanted to back away from the roadblock, but was so nervous he hit the wrong gear.

## NATO bombs Bosnian Serbs again

(Continued from page 1)

The U.N. commander for Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, said earlier Monday he would not hesitate to call air strikes again if shelling resumed, a position supported by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Gbali.

President Clinton told reporters Monday the air strikes were an "entirely appropriate" response.

"What the United Nations wants is for the Serbs to stop the shelling and to withdraw and to resume the negotiations," Mr. Clinton said.

The Serbs responded to the NATO attack on Sunday by suspending contacts with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR). Their leader, Radovan Karadzic, called off a meeting planned for Monday with U.S. peace envoy Charles Redman.

On Monday, Bosnian Serb authorities blocked traffic in and out of Sarajevo at Serb-controlled checkpoints around Sarajevo, the Bosnian Serb SRNA news agency reported.

U.N. officials confirmed that Serbs were limiting access at several checkpoints and limiting movement for United Nations military observers.

Russia, Serbia's traditional

ally, reacted angrily to NATO's weekend airstrike on Bosnian Serb forces and demanded to be consulted in future.

President Boris Yeltsin told reporters he had complained personally to President Clinton on Monday that the United States had not consulted Moscow before Sunday's attack.

But Mr. Yeltsin, speaking at Moscow airport on his way to Spain, did not specifically commit Russia to support or oppose this or any other U.N.-authorised use of force against the Serbs.

The Serb chief of staff, General Manojlo Milovanovic, had told the U.N. on Sunday his forces would stop shelling Gorazde. But the shelling continued unabated and U.N. personnel remained in danger, United Nations officers said.

General Rose said he called in two American F-16s on Sunday after a Serb tank started firing directly into Gorazde.

President Clinton and Dr. Ghali had warned the Serbs after the air raid they faced more attacks unless they pulled back.

The Bosnian Serbs reacted with a "strong protest" to the United Nations and accused it of taking sides against the Serbs in Bosnia's civil war.

The Gorazde raid was the first time NATO had used air power on Serb forces attacking a U.N. "safe area" in Bosnia.

The threat of air strikes forces the Serbs to withdraw their siege guns from Sarajevo in February and eight days later NATO jets shot down four Serb warplanes violating the no-fly zone over Bosnia.

Bosnian Serbs accused NATO of hitting civilian targets around Gorazde and sharply protested the first NATO attack, insisting U.N. personnel in Gorazde were not threatened.

"There was no justification for the use of NATO air power," said a statement carried by Tanjug. "By this act, the United Nations have sided against the Serbs."

"The peace process is in danger and full responsibility lies with the U.N.," it said. "The Serbs will not be intimidated and will retain the right to self-defence using all available means."

In Geneva, Dr. Ghali denied anti-Serb sentiments.

The safe areas designated by the United Nations must remain safe areas," he said. "It was for this reason and not as an attack on any one party" that the NATO air power was summoned.

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## Export control goes national in post-cold war era

**(THE HAGUE (R))** — Strategic export controls have become a largely national responsibility following the dissolution of Cocom, the cold war body set up to prevent the Communist Bloc from acquiring advanced military technology.

Frans Engering, the senior Dutch government official who chaired talks on winding up Cocom, said a new organization to be set by October would leave national governments to take the final decision on exports of sophisticated military goods.

"The new system is based on national discretion... each country will have the authority and sovereignty to take the final decision," he told Reuters in an interview at the weekend.

Despite this, Mr. Engering said there was a firm commitment from the various countries involved to make the new

regime work and prevent strategic goods falling into the wrong hands. "I believe it can be an effective system," he said.

Cocom's final meeting at a castle near The Hague last month agreed to set up a broader-based and more flexible apparatus to replace Cocom's system of strict multilateral export curbs.

In addition to the 17 Cocom members — all 16 NATO countries, except Iceland, plus Australia and Japan — the new arrangement will also include Austria, Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland.

Mr. Engering held talks in Moscow last week about Russia joining the new organization as a founder member and has been given a mandate to open talks with China, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia about joining at later stage.

New members will have to demonstrate that they have an adequate export control system and the means to enforce it.

The decision to scrap Cocom, the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls, goes back to last year's Vancouver summit between presidents Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin.

Cocom had become an anachronism and was preventing the former Warsaw Pact countries from acquiring the technology they need to build successful market economies.

"But we also recognised that there are new threats and new problems in the world... individual countries which we do not trust," Mr. Engering said.

In contrast to Cocom, the still unnamed successor organization will not maintain a permanent blacklist of countries which are ineligible to receive weapons or high-technology goods with potential military applications.

"There is no published list of bad guys. We have some countries in mind, but it will change from time to time," Mr. Engering said, declining to identify individual countries.

U.S. officials have had no qualms however in naming Iran, Iraq, Libya and North Korea as countries likely to be affected by strategic export restrictions under the new regime.

Member countries will cooperate in drawing up lists of restricted goods and technologies, but these will be much shorter than the list used by Cocom.

Until the new arrangements are in place, countries are expected to control strategic exports on the basis of their own national legislation.

Mr. Engering said the Cocom regime had been a far-reaching one with participating countries surrendering some sovereignty.

"Cocom was a system of consensus... everybody had a veto, so in fact you had handed over some sovereignty once you were inside the system."

To a large extent the success of the new, looser arrangements will depend on the political will of participating countries to make them work.

Countries issuing an export licence against the advance of the group's other members could in theory be expelled and face trade restrictions themselves, Mr. Engering said.

In time Cocom's successor could cooperate or even merge with other international bodies set up to prevent arms proliferation, but this was not on the agenda for the time being, he added.

According to a spokesman, Mr. Abedi is unable to talk and is confined to a wheelchair.

Abu Dhabi's ruling Al Nahayan family and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) owned 77.4 per cent of BCCI.

BCCI and Pakistan have been working on an extradition pact for more than a year. Officials say it was not initiated because of the trial, the biggest to stem from the bank's 1991 collapse.

"We are not talking in reference to any particular case. It will depend on whether it is going to be applicable in retrospect or not," Mr. Alam said.

He said each side had completed its own preliminary draft of the treaty and it could be finalised this year after it is ratified by the UAE cabinet and Pakistani parliament.

Mr. Abedi and 12 other former BCCI officials face criminal charges and civil suits worth \$10.3 billion in Abu Dhabi. Mr. Abedi and one other defendant are being tried in their absence, while 11 are attending the hearings which resume on April 23.

They have pleaded not guilty to charges including dissipating funds, forging documents and concealing the bank's deficits.



**SHENZHEN:** China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping features on a billboard in Shenzhen overlooking a skyline of a major metropolis and the Great Wall as a brand new German luxury car drives by in this thriving southern Chinese special economic zone. Text translates as: "Over the next 100 years the basic principles of communism will remain in force" (AFP photo)

## Russia may get Sakhalin oil deal bonanza soon

**MOSCOW (R)** — A Western oil consortium may push ahead soon with a multi-billion-dollar offshore project near the far eastern island of Sakhalin, Russian Fuel and Energy Minister Yuri Shafarik has said.

"This is a huge project, \$10 billion of investment... the main work has been done, not just a protocol, but virtually all agreements have been signed," he told a news conference. "The ball is now in the court of the Western firms."

A senior official at the Russian state oil producers' group Rosneft said last month that a protocol had been drafted and was ready for signing, but government approval was still required.

"The Sakhalin-2 project, delayed for months by political and economic turmoil in Russia and legislative uncertainty, involves a consortium known as MMMSM — Marathon Oil Co., McDermott International Inc., Mitsui Co. Ltd., Mitsubishi Corp and Royal Dutch/Shell Group."

Mr. Shafarik compared the deal to a contract signed last year between U.S.-based Chevron Corp and Kazakhstan to develop the huge Tengiz oilfield near the Caspian Sea.

"In terms of political importance, it is about the same as the Tengiz deal," he said.

Many Western oil companies have refrained from investing big sums in Russia, saying investment conditions were better in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan.

The deposits on offer under Sakhalin-2, the Piltun-Astokhsk and Lunsk offshore fields, have possible reserves of about 50 million tonnes of oil, 30 million tonnes of gas condensate and 300 billion cubic metres of natural gas.

This would compare with some of the biggest North Sea deposits and give Russia's cash-starved oil and gas industry a major shot in the arm.

Russian crude oil output has been declining steadily since 1988. Officials have forecast this year's output at about 330 million tonnes, down from 354 million in 1993.

Mr. Shafarik said it was now up to the Sakhalin-2 consortium to decide when a final contract should be signed and when work should begin.

"The agreement clears the way for the Western partners to say if they will begin work in a month or not," he said.

The minister outlined the terms of the 25-year production-sharing deal, under

which Russia would receive more than 50 per cent of profits.

The bonus to be paid to Russia upon signing of the contract was \$50 million, while \$100 million would go to a social development fund for Sakhalin and about \$160 million to Russian firms that took part in geological work, he said.

"Besides, 70 per cent of all orders and work required under the agreement will remain on the Russian side," he said, adding that converted former Soviet defence sector firms would participate.

Mr. Shafarik said there has also been major progress in another Sakhalin project, Sakhalin-1, which has been delayed for years by differences over contract terms.

"We hope that in a very short time, perhaps a month or two, this will also be decided," he said.

Sakhalin-1 involves Japan's Sakhalin Oil Development Company (SODECO) and the U.S. group Exxon Corp.

A tender for another development project, Sakhalin-3, was won late last year by Exxon and a consortium of Mobil Oil and Texaco and a Sakhalin-4 tender is expected soon.

## UAE, Pakistan pact may affect BCCI case

**ABU DHABI (R)** — The United Arab Emirates (UAE), which wants the Pakistani founder of the failed BCCI bank to stand trial in Abu Dhabi, will discuss terms for a general extradition treaty with Pakistan Tuesday.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Asif Ali Zardari arrived in the UAE Monday. The proposed treaty is one of 20 items on his agenda for two days of talks with UAE officials.

Mansoor Alam, Pakistan's ambassador to the UAE, said it was not clear what effect the treaty would have on the trial in Abu Dhabi criminal court of 13 former Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) officials.

"We will discuss everything under the sky. The extradition treaty will be discussed too," he said.

"The question of signing the extradition treaty is not with particular reference to BCCI. It may cover BCCI when it is finalised. It will cover all cases of crimes committed within the UAE and Pakistan," he added.

In January, the UAE issued two summonses for Agha Hassan Abedi, BCCI founder living in Pakistan, to face trial in Abu Dhabi for his alleged role in the world's biggest bank failure.

According to a spokesman, Mr. Abedi is unable to talk and is confined to a wheelchair.

Abu Dhabi's ruling Al Nahayan family and the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) owned 77.4 per cent of BCCI.

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They have pleaded not guilty to charges including dissipating funds, forging documents and concealing the bank's deficits.

## Arab stock markets urge lifting capital outflows

**AMMAN (R)** — Arab bankers and stock market officials said Monday improving the region's investment climate and freeing capital flows would modernise markets.

"There is a need to create the right investment climate by issuing regulatory laws for the stock exchanges and especially those which relate to investment, companies taxes, foreign currency," said a final resolution issued at the end of a three-day conference on Arab stock markets.

Participants looked into ways to develop their stock markets to stimulate investments in countries embarking on free market reforms.

"No doubt one of the main obstacles is laws on foreign currency controls which have stood in the way of developing Arab stock markets because stock markets mean the free-

dom of movement of capital," Adnan Hindi, the secretary general of the Union of Arab Banks, one of the conference organisers, told Reuters.

Bahrain's stock exchange head Fawzi Bahad said the right investment climate was needed to allow free flow of capital, adding that "most Arab foreign investment laws while opening some doors closed others and so real investment does not come."

The conference noted that newfound interest in setting up the Arab World's stockmarkets and developing existing ones was an outcome of "policies of economic liberalisation sweeping the whole of the Arab World."

The conference appealed to Arab states to speed up the procedures for the setting up of "exchanges and the effective mechanisms of regulation over

them" that would help in attracting investments, correcting economic imbalances, and improving the investment climate in their respective countries.

A number of Arab countries like Syria and Sudan are looking into setting up stockmarkets while others like the United Arab Emirates have gone a long way towards opening an official bourse.

Fears were expressed that largescale foreign inflows into the small, undercapitalised markets of the Arab World could only lead to unnatural price hikes.

Many of the emerging Arab stockmarkets bar non-citizens from investing while others put restrictions on foreign ownership and discourage it through foreign currency controls on capital outflows.

## U.S. firms still waiting for a Vietnam boom

**HANOI, Vietnam (AP)** — U.S. airlines eager for business in Vietnam are finding that politics still hampers them two months after the end of the 19-year American economic embargo.

The United States lifted sanctions on Feb. 3, but it has yet to establish diplomatic relations with its one-time enemy. Governments generally must have normal relations before signing an air services agreement, which allows for regularly scheduled passenger flights between two nations.

Delta, United, Northwest, and Continental are taking immediate steps to normal service, such as coordinating schedules and ticket sales with Vietnam Airlines, the state-owned Vietnamese flag carrier. They wait, meanwhile, for diplomatic ties to improve.

Nor has the end of sanctions led to quick sales for Boeing, the U.S. aircraft maker.

Robert Laird, Boeing's regional sales director, has made 14 trips to Hanoi in the last two years, positioning his company for a part in Vietnam Airlines

plan to spend an estimated \$1 billion by the year 2000 to expand its fleet.

"Vietnam is an untapped aviation market with enormous potential, so there are a lot of people beating the doors down to talk with them," Mr. Laird said here recently.

Boeing foresees potential sales in Vietnam of \$3 billion to \$5 billion — 60 to 80 airplanes — over the next 10 to 15 years, Mr. Laird said. Boeing is competing mainly with Europe's Airbus Industrie consortium and the U.S. company McDonnell Douglas.

Mr. Laird said he hopes the Vietnamese will choose a supplier sometime this year, but acknowledged that now was the time to be patient.

Delta Airlines, making up for lost time since the embargo ended, signed a letter of intent last month with Vietnam Airlines to cooperate on scheduling and marketing. It expects to sign a formal interline agreement later this year, said Delta spokesman Bill Berry.

United Airlines, which

signed an agreement with Vietnam Airlines in February 1993, the applied for permission from the U.S. Department of Transportation to fly from Los Angeles to Ho Chi Minh City. Northwest Airlines has asked for approval to fly there from Detroit, and Continental Airlines wants to fly to Vietnam by way of Guam.

The United States has not said when full diplomatic relations are expected. But Vietnam Airlines is ready to start negotiating for an air services agreement at any time, said Nguyen Duc Vinh, the company's deputy director general.

At stake is an expected surge in air travel to Vietnam by businessmen, war veterans, tourists, and some of about one million Vietnamese-Americans. Dao Manh Nhuong, deputy director general of Vietnam's Civil Aviation Administration, estimates that the United States could account for up to 30 per cent of the people flying to Vietnam by 1995.

Vietnam Airlines hopes to

fly its own jets to the United States as early as this year if diplomatic conditions permit, Mr. Nhuong said. To do so, it must first upgrade its fleet.

The company plans to buy between 30 and 40 new aircraft by the end of the century in its quest to become a regional airline.

"In the next 10 to 15 years, they could easily become the size of a Thai Airways, a Cathay Pacific, or a Singapore Airlines," said Boeing's Laird.

Vietnam Airlines now owns 18 planes, 16 of which are aging and inefficient Soviet built Tupolevs, Ilushins and Yakovlevs. It also leases two Boeing 767s and five Airbus A320s with foreign pilots and crews for its international flights.

Few of the airline's own pilots are trained to fly non-Soviet aircraft, but Mr. Laird sees no problem in this.

"The pilots are excellent," he said. "I would say the Tupolevs are probably more difficult to fly than most Western equipment."

**Turino**  
Club Restaurant

Ladies Lunch & Exotic Dinner

The Liberty Of  
The Flame To Burn!

Sweetyeh \$16690

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY APRIL 12, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You can solve a difficult problem when you are fresh and thinking clearly in the day. Take constructive steps to overcome obstacles in the path of your progress. Seek harmony with close ties.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Suggestions from higher-ups can prove helpful in your career activities. Sidelapse one who wants to make trouble for you in any activity.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) You can deal most sensibly with associates and strengthen the relationship. Handle an important business matter wisely and you will be successful.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Find more practical methods of operating early in the day and accomplish more. Cooperate more with fellow associates and you get that project completed.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Plan early for recreations later in the day. A time when you can make an important decision and get desired results.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Complete unfinished tasks in a tactful manner and then make new plans for the future. Be more willing to listen to the suggestions of others.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Plan to be with loved one more and add to present mutual happiness. Make sure your business affairs are in good order and you will succeed.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Come to a better understanding with family ties and have greater rapport in the future. Stop being so critical of others and you will be more appreciated.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Find out what associates expect of you and do your best to please them. Don't neglect important correspondence to associates and loved ones.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Be more supportive of loyal associates and establish goodwill between you. Listen to what an adviser has to say about a new project.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Go after long-time aims and gain them easily now. Make new associates of worth and the future becomes brighter to you for the days ahead.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Be more active in the business world and improve your position in life. Show more loyalty to family members and there will be happiness.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Communicating with persons you want to be associated with in the future is wise. Go to the right sources for the data you need on a current project.

### JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**NIYKK**

□ □ □ □ □

**WENIT**

□ □ □ □ □

**JELOTS**

□ □ □ □ □

**LOAPER**

□ □ □ □ □

Answer: HE □ □ □ □ THE "□ □ □ □ □"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: VIRUS DERBY BUTANE NUTRIA

Answer: Another name for an altar — A RITE SITE

### THE Daily Crossword

by Frank R. Jackson

**ACROSS**

- Trade Bar
- 10th
- Expenditure
- Choice of vote
- Jason's craft
- Rames of films
- President's speech
- Large quantity
- Wife's abode
- Wid
- In addition
- "Auntie"
- Kate Smith specialty
- Huge land area
- Haley's for one
- Purse
- Gravel ridges
- off (passages by fraud)
- Mentally sound
- Yuhang
- Maori
- Age or will start
- Phrase in a patriotic song
- To shelter
- Card game
- Cavalry weapon
- News bit
- Chore
- Betsy Ross creation?
- Rained
- Feltive
- Prude, e.g.
- Hurried
- Convent
- Algheri

**DOWN**

- Garment
- Choir voice
- Sour-tempered
- Approximation of interest
- Solid alcohol
- Unhappy call
- Phew
- Don
- Deceptive outward show
- MacGraw and
- Rabe
- Aperture
- Boats
- Indian
- Not yet solved
- 31st
- Demon of capacity
- Lower city
- 27th
- 28th
- Do harm to
- Conductor
- 31st
- Building beams
- Dugout
- Picknet
- Put forward
- Ormen
- 41st
- 44th
- 45th
- 46th
- 47th
- 48th
- 49th
- 50th
- 51st
- 52nd
- 53rd
- 54th
- 55th
- 56th
- 57th
- 58th
- 59th
- 60th

**Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:**

ACROSS: 1. GOLF, 2. HILL, 3. RIVER, 4. HILL, 5. RIVER, 6. HILL, 7. RIVER, 8. HILL, 9. RIVER, 10. HILL, 11. RIVER, 12. HILL, 13. RIVER, 14. HILL, 15. RIVER, 16. HILL, 17. RIVER, 18. HILL, 19. RIVER, 20. HILL, 21. RIVER, 22. HILL, 23. RIVER, 24. HILL, 25. RIVER, 26. HILL, 27. RIVER, 28. HILL, 29. RIVER, 30. HILL, 31. RIVER, 32. HILL, 33. RIVER, 34. HILL, 35. RIVER, 36. HILL, 37. RIVER, 38. HILL, 39. RIVER, 40. HILL, 41. RIVER, 42. HILL, 43. RIVER, 44. HILL, 45. RIVER, 46. HILL, 47. RIVER, 48. HILL, 49. RIVER, 50. HILL, 51. RIVER, 52. HILL, 53. RIVER, 54. HILL, 55. RIVER, 56. HILL, 57. RIVER, 58. HILL, 59. RIVER, 60. HILL.

### Peanuts

YOU'VE TIED YOUR OWN SHOES, RERUN! GOOD FOR YOU!

NOW, OF COURSE, THERE'S ONE OTHER THING...

THE SOCKS GO ON BEFORE THE SHOES.

---

### Mutt'n'Jeff

**AND TO CONTINUE FROM WHERE WE LEFT OFF YESTERDAY IN MUTT & JEFF'S OLD ALBUM**

THE ONLY TYPE OF MUTT'S FATHER THIS WAS TAKEN THE DAY HE MARRIED! HE NEVER SMILED AGAIN AND THE DAY DIDN'T HAVE OWNERS. MUTT WAS BORN HE LEFT HOME!

**MUTT'S MOTHER**

IT WAS THE BEST PHOTOGRAPHER COULD DO! THEY DIDN'T HAVE OWNERS. FAST ENOUGH THEN.

**HARD TO BELIEVE BUT THIS IS MUTT'S BROTHER, WHO WE HAD TO OBEY HIM AS THE SIZE OF COMIC STRIPS WERE REDUCED THROUGH THE YEARS.**

TIME CHANGES EVERYTHING!







## South African unrest death toll reaches 552 in March

JANESBURG (R) — At least 552 people were killed in racial violence in South Africa during March, the Human Rights Commission (HRC) said Monday.

The commission said the toll was more than double the 245 deaths recorded in February and reversed a seven-month downward trend in racial killings ahead of the April 26-28 first all-race election.

Levels of violence were still apparent.

Despite the deployment of thousands of extra troops, at least 147 people have been killed in the region since the emergency declaration.

The commission said it had recorded 4,139 deaths in political unrest since July last year when the election date was announced.

About 15,000 people have been killed in political violence, mostly between supporters of Inkatha and those of the African National Congress (ANC). In the four years since President F.W. de Klerk unbanned opposition groups and began dismantling apartheid.

Meanwhile, Britain's Lord Carrington will arrive in South Africa Tuesday to take part in a foreign mediator mission to try to break a constitutional impasse between rival black groups, officials said Monday.

A U.K. Foreign Office spokesman said Lord Carrington, a former British foreign secretary, had agreed to take part in a personal capacity but he had the full support of the British government.

Lord Carrington's office confirmed he would depart for South Africa later Monday, arriving Tuesday morning.

Lord Carrington himself was not available for comment and no details of his flight were immediately available.

In Johannesburg, coordinators said foreign mediators including Lord Carrington and former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger would arrive Tuesday to try to break the constitutional impasse between Nelson Mandela's African National Congress and Mangosuthu Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party.

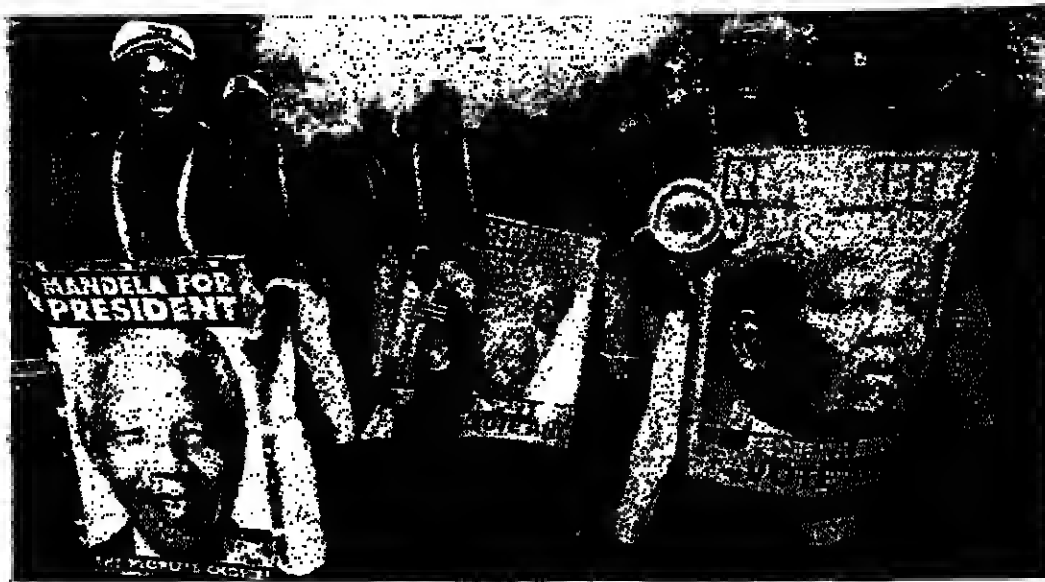
The foreign mediators were unlikely to begin the peace mission until the week before the country's first all-race elections, the ANC said Monday.

The mediators are seen as the last hope in resolving the impasse between the ANC and the IFP.

"They (mediators) will be here as soon as the issue of their terms of reference have been finalised," said ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa, adding this was unlikely before the end of the week.

A summit of the country's four key leaders — Mr. Mandela, President F.W. de Klerk, Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi — failed to agree on peace but agreed Friday to urgent talks on mediation terms.

Inkatha, which is boycotting the April 26-28 first all-race elections which the ANC is widely expected to win, is demanding virtual autonomy for the country's 8.5 million Zulus, whose loyalties are fiercely contested by the two main black parties.



Supporters display posters of ANC President Nelson Mandela, the late Chris Hani and Oliver Tambo outside the stadium in Soweto, after a rally to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of the South African Communist Party (SACP) chief Chris Hani (AFP photo)

## pan coalition squabble continues

YO (R) — Japan's ruling coalition, locked in bitter debate over choosing a successor prime minister, came close to collapse Monday after two rounds of talks ended in failure.

Negotiators representing the parties and one trade group making up the coalition agreed on little else but an end-of-week line.

Negotiators were due to meet again Monday but no end to the crisis was in sight.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hosokawa convened a government panel to redraw Japan's oral map. The timing of the exercise will probably define the date of the next election.

Head of the seven-member panel of academics, legal experts promised to finish the job by early October.

Political analysts said this ended the world's second longest economic power to at six more months of stop-

gap government — at best, weak and at worst, incapable of action.

Inside parliament the Socialists, biggest but most intransigent party in the alliance, demanded a summit of the party chiefs to pick a new premier, a move that could have broken apart the disparate group had it ended in failure.

"There's still a good possibility the coalition will split in half because of internal friction but a crisis was averted for the time being with an agreement to cancel the summit meeting," said political columnist Minoru Morita.

In a shock announcement last Friday, Mr. Hosokawa said he was quitting because of questionable personal financial deals. He stays on until parliament chooses a successor.

This task has accelerated a slow unravelling of the alliance into two camps. One is a mainstream group comprising the Shinseito (Renewal Party) of Foreign Minister Tsutomu

Hata and his mentor Ichiro Ozawa, the Buddhist-backed Komeito (Clean Government Party) and Mr. Hosokawa's Japan New Party.

Against them, the Socialists have formed a rival camp with the small Sakigake (Harbingers) Party led by Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura and the centrist Democratic Socialist Party.

The mainstreamers said they were ready to form an official bloc in parliament and backed Mr. Hata for prime minister.

Not to be outdone, Sakigake's Takemura announced a set of basic policy outlines Monday, in effect inviting defectors from the opposition Liberal Democratic Party.

The LDP, which ruled for 38 years until last July's general election, is still by far the biggest party in parliament.

There were no clear moves within the LDP to exploit the alliance's turmoil and push LDP President Yohei Kono as the next prime minister.

## Police hold S. Korean monks in temple raid

SEOUL (R) — Riot police stormed the main temple of South Korea's largest Buddhist order Monday and arrested 134 monks involved in a heated dispute over the future of the order's head priest.

Hundreds of policemen moved into an administration building in the compound of the Chogyong Temple in central Seoul to disperse opposing groups of monks, police said.

Reformist monks are calling for the resignation of head priest Suh Eun-Hyon, whom they allege was involved in a multi-million dollar business scandal.

A group of the reformist monks took over part of the five-story block Sunday afternoon in an attempt to force Suh's resignation.

The spokesman said police stepped in when the reformists tried to evict Suh and his followers from the building, although it was unclear if Suh was in his office at the time.

"A total of 134 monks, including 51 monks supporting Suh, are under questioning in police custody," a police spokesman said. "We will formally charge several of those we think are the ringleaders in the violence."

No serious injuries were reported in the raid, he said.

About 1,000 riot police stood guard in the temple compound to prevent further disturbances while about 100 reformist monks prayed inside, witnesses said.

An initial police raid took place Sunday afternoon to disperse hundreds of reformists who were trying to enter the building after an anti-Suh rally by about 5,000 monks, nuns and followers.

## Russia accuses Ukraine troops of storming Black Sea Fleet base

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia accused Ukraine Monday of storming a Black Sea naval base and arresting three officers. Ukraine denied using violence in one of the most serious clashes yet over control of the Black Sea Fleet.

The Russian military said 120 Ukrainian commandos took over the base in the Ukrainian port of Odessa Sunday, handcuffed the three officers, beat some sailors and family members, and prevented other officers and crew from leaving.

Ukrainian officials, however, said the arrests were made by four military police without violence.

In Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, Defence Ministry spokesman Oleksandr Kluban said the three officers were arrested for stealing military equipment. One, a Belorussian, has been released, he said.

The arrests stem from a clash Friday night when a Russian ship, the Cheleken, loaded navigational equipment at Odessa and sailed away despite objections by Ukrainian naval officials.

The Cheleken, chased by Ukrainian ships and planes, sailed to the Russian-controlled port of Sevastopol on the Crimean peninsula, the headquarters of the Black Sea Fleet.

Russia and Ukraine have jointly owned the Black Sea Fleet since the Soviet breakup in 1991, and have frequently quarrelled over its control. Most officers and sailors in the fleet are Russian.

The powerful armada of about 300 small and medium-size ships was the Soviet counterbalance to the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean.

Russian fleet officials also reported that Ukrainian crack units Monday blocked the garison of the fleet's 46th Hydrographic Division, which the Cheleken belongs to. They said communications with the division, near Odessa, had been cut.

Russia's Navy Central Command protested to Ukraine's Defence Ministry. It accused Ukraine of "political irresponsibility" and creating "an explosive situation around the Black Sea Fleet."

"They injured several civilians, including children. They broke into homes and broke windows" in the storming of the Odessa base, said Andrei Grachev, spokesman for Russia's Black Sea Fleet command.

Adm. Eduard Balin, the Russian fleet commander, described the seizure as the "actions of uncontrollable gangs."

ITAR-TASS said.

Mr. Kluban called the Rus-

sian charges "absurd."

"No force was used, no special forces were involved, no windows were broken and no doors were kicked in," he said.

Volodymyr Petenko, military affairs adviser to Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, accused Adm. Balin of stealing the navigational equipment.

"The incident is part of the continuing saga," Mr. Petenko said. "Instead of screaming, he should recall how he stole goods in the middle of the night."

The Russian military said it needed no permission to take the equipment because it was fleet property. Some Russian news reports also said Ukraine owed money for the equipment's use.

About 100 Russian officers and sailors were on the base Sunday, along with 200 family members and civilian employees.

Mr. Kluban said Odessa's military prosecutor issued the arrest warrants.

Still held were Col. Oleg Fokistov, who was in charge of the equipment, and Lt-Col. Dmitry Starikov, who is accused of commanding sailors to shoot if Ukrainians interfered with the Cheleken's loading. Each could face 10 years in prison if convicted, Mr. Kluban said.

## Cobain's suicide note blames lack of passion

SEATTLE (R) — Rock singer Kurt Cobain killed himself because he no longer felt the passion needed to go on with his music, according to excerpts of his suicide note read at a memorial service Sunday.

"I'm too much of an erratic, moody person and I don't have the passion anymore," Cobain said in the note, read by his sobbing widow Courtney Love and played in a tape recording to about 3,000 grieving fans of the singer's hugely popular grunge-rock band Nirvana.

Cobain's body was found Friday in an apartment over the garage of his home in an exclusive Seattle neighbourhood. Cobain, 27, died of a self-inflicted shotgun wound to the head, police and coroner's officials said. Sadness was mixed with anger at the candlelight vigil for the musician, whose anguished lyrics gave voice to a generation and made Nirvana one of the most popular rock groups of the 1990s. At the urging of the tape-recorded message from Love, fans shouted an obscenity at Cobain's memory. But many wept as they listened to the final words of the singer-songwriter who put the Seattle punk-rock subculture onto the international map. "Sometimes I feel as if I should have a punch-in time clock before I walk out on stage," Cobain said in the note. "The fact is I can't fool you, any one of you. It simply isn't fair to you or to me." In an apparent reference to his long battle with heroin addiction, Cobain wrote that he needed "to be slightly numb in order to regain the enthusiasm I once had as a child." He also referred to the "burning, nauseous" stomach that plagued him for years. Love said she often had feared Cobain's suicide, but said she regretted listening to people who recommended that she treat Cobain with "tough love," referring to a philosophy of forcing drug addicts to face their problems alone. "We all should have let him have his numbness, we should have let him have the thing that made him feel better... instead of trying to strip away his skin," Love said.

## Rock singer's death spurs record sales

LOS ANGELES (R) — Retailers across the United States said last week's suicide of Nirvana lead singer Kurt Cobain had spurred sales of the band's albums, especially its early, independent releases. Hollywood trade paper daily Variety said retailers were busy keeping copies of the grunge-rock trio's output on their shelves.

"It sounds ghastly, but we've ordered another 200 copies of Nirvana's (In Utero) album," a local record-store buyer, who declined to be identified, told the paper. "I don't want (the public) to think we're taking advantage of a tragedy, but we've sold a lot of records since the news came out. We've probably moved twice the number of units we normally would have." In Utero is the follow-up to Nevermind, the band's 1991 multimillion-selling debut for the DGC imprint of Los Angeles-based label Geffen Records, owned by Japan's Matsushita through MCA Inc. Notwithstanding the band's huge popularity, In Utero had been viewed as a relative disappointment, having sold fewer than two million copies in the United States since its release last fall. This was in part due to the refusal of major chains like Wal-Mart to Stock It because of apparently offensive art. Collectors in recent days seemed to be focusing on Nirvana's early recordings, released mostly by Seattle's acclaimed independent label Sub Pop. The band's first single, Love Buzz/Big Cheese, was released in November 1988, a year after Cobain co-founded the band with bass player Krist Novoselic. The success spawned a full album, Bleach, which was released the following June.

## Jackson fan booked for making threat

LOS ANGELES (R) — A Michael Jackson fan was in custody Sunday after being arrested for making a terrorist threat in a reported break-in at the home of the father of the boy who accused Jackson of molesting him. Denise Pfeiffer, 24, was being held at the Los Angeles County Women's Jail following her arrest Thursday on suspicion of making a terrorist threat. Los Angeles police said. She was being held on \$150,000 bond and was scheduled for arraignment Monday.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Yeltsin starts state visit to Spain

MADRID (R) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin arrived in Madrid Monday at the start of a three-day state visit to Spain. Spanish officials hope the visit, Mr. Yeltsin's first to the West since he was elected, will put new life into cordial but rather lacklustre relations between the two countries. Western eyes will be closely watching how Mr. Yeltsin performs on the visit in view of recurring doubts about his health.

### 12 Vietnamese massacred in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH (R) — At least 12 ethnic Vietnamese were killed and 23 injured in a weekend massacre southeast of Phnom Penh, a senior Cambodian police commander said Monday. It is the worst killing of ethnic Vietnamese since last May's U.N.-organised elections. A group of unidentified gunmen threw grenades and opened fire on Vietnamese people, killing 12 and wounding 23 including children, said Brigadier-General Lam Buntha. He said the massacre took place Saturday at Treuy Slay village in the Saang district of Kandal province. A United Nations human rights official told Reuters 13 were killed.

### Greek leftists claim attacks in Athens

ATHENS (R) — Leftist guerrillas attacked Athens offices housing American and Dutch insurance companies Monday, using a rocket-grenade and a time-bomb, police said. They said the Nov. 17 Group claimed responsibility for the attacks, which caused damage but no casualties, in an anonymous telephone call to an Athens radio station. They said the rocket-grenade used against the office of the Alico American Life Insurance Company in the northern suburb of Marousi had been stolen by Nov. 17 from a Greek army depot in Larissa. The grenade was fired from a make-shift launcher placed on the opposite side of the street. The offices of the Dutch Nationale Nederlandse Insurance Company, in a commercial building about 100 metres from Alico, were wrecked when the time-bomb exploded outside the third-floor door. Earlier, police said a rocket was used in the attack on the Dutch company.

### 4 injured in Belfast bomb attacks

BELFAST (R) — Four people were injured in bomb attacks Sunday night on two houses in the Northern Ireland capital Belfast, police said. The British Broadcasting Corporation reported that an outlawed Protestant guerrilla group, the Ulster Freedom Fighters, had claimed responsibility for one of the attacks. Britain failed to persuade the IRA to extend a short truce last week, but said it would try to reconcile Northern Ireland's Protestants and Catholics even without the headline Irish nationalists. The Irish Republican Army (IRA) showed it was back in business with four attacks on security forces in the British province hours after its Wednesday-to-Friday ceasefire ended. No one was hurt but sources close to the IRA, whose 25-year insurrection has failed to reunite Ireland, warned far bigger attacks were likely to follow in coming weeks. Britain had dismissed the truce all along as a ploy to lure it into talks with the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein that would be hostage to the threat of renewed violence.

### U.K. troops ready to leave Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AP) — Boots, jeeps, spent shells and assault craft — it's all got to go. China recovers Hong Kong soon, and the departing British army is holding garage sales of historic proportions. Chinese troops will march into Hong Kong in July 1997, so the British are packing, mothballing weapons, clearing barracks and preparing to leave. What they can't take with them is coming under the auctioneer's gavel. Unlike many other colonies Britain has left, Hong Kong is being handed without a shot. Britain and China agreed on the transfer of sovereignty in 1984.

## Thousands march in Mexico City to mark Zapata death

MEXICO CITY (R) — Tens of thousands of people, some openly supporting Zapatista guerrillas in southern Mexico, marched through the streets of Mexico City to mark the 75th anniversary of revolutionary hero Emiliano Zapata's death.

Peasant farmers, brightly clad indigenous women and the occasional marcher wearing the trademark ski mask of guerrilla leader "Marcos" thronged the streets of the city centre in a series of marches to the capital's Zocalo Main Square.

Marchers carried banners reading "Zapata is not dead" and "long live the EZLN" — the Spanish initials of the self-styled Zapatista National Liberation Army which rose up in arms on Jan. 1 in the southern state of Chiapas.

The Zapatista guerrillas are demanding justice for Mexico's down-trodden indigenous peoples, land redistribution and national democratic reform.

The march was led by peasant farmers from Chiapas demanding a fairer system of land-holding in the state — a key battle cry of Zapata when he fought in the 1910-1917 Mexican revolution to demand nationwide land reform.

Zapata was shot to death in an ambush by revolutionary rivals in 1919.

Many of the protesters, who came from states across the country, said they opposed recent constitutional reforms in Mexico aimed at attracting more private capital to agricul-

ture by allowing the sale of "ejidos," or state-owned farmland now parcelled out to individual peasant farmers or collectives.

The sale of Ejido land was previously illegal. Critics of the new system say it will allow the wealthy to strip poor farmers of their lands, while advocates say it should boost the productivity of the agricultural sector.

"It is not just, it is not fair," said one gray-haired marcher from Zapata's home state of Morelos near Mexico City. "Poor farmers are threatened by this."

The Zapatista rebels, in a statement marking Zapata's anniversary carried on local radio, said those responsible for the reform were guilty of "treason against Mexico," but added "the EZLN's heart is full of joy" at the demonstration.

President Carlos Salinas De Gortari commemorated the anniversary by personally handing out almost \$1 million in aid to farmers in Morelos, part of a simultaneous distribution of some \$10 million to farmers across the country.

The government said Sunday's payments completed payments of more than \$30 million in direct aid to farmers for this year's fall-winter agricultural cycle under a new direct-aid scheme known as Procampo.

Meanwhile, the judge presiding over investigations into the slaying of Mexican presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio freed one suspect

for lack of evidence Sunday and issued formal imprisonment orders against two others.

Judge Alejandro Sosa told reporters he had ordered the release of Rodolfo Rivapalacio, a former police officer who organised a security detail for Mr. Colosio in the northern city of Tijuana the day of his death, after finding insufficient grounds to jail him on charges of criminal association.

Radio reports said Mr. Rivapalacio later left the maximum-security prison outside Mexico City where suspects in the slaying are being held, but said nothing as he drove away in a private car.

Government-appointed special prosecutor Miguel Montes will appeal the judge's decision, his office said in a statement.

Several members of the security detail have been accused of taking part in the March 23 murder of Mr. Colosio, either by clearing a way through rally crowds for alleged assassin Mario Aburto Martinez to shoot the candidate, by impeding the work of other security guards or by blocking Mr. Colosio's movements.

Special prosecutor Miguel Montes has said that at least seven people took part in a conspiracy to kill Mr. Colosio, although he has yet to give a motive.

The government has released a videotape and photo-

graphs it says show the suspects acting suspiciously in the moments before Mr. Aburto fired a revolver at Mr. Colosio's head.

Mr. Montes said suspicion fell on Mr. Rivapalacio, who is also a member of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), because he organised the security team. Mr. Rivapalacio does not appear in the video or photographic evidence.

Judge Sosa said he also threw out charges of criminal association against all the suspects in the murder.

But he ordered the formal imprisonment of former policeman Vicente Mayoral Vazquez, and his son Rodolfo Mayoral Escuer on charges of aiding and abetting the murder.

The decisions meant that alleged killer Aburto, former policeman Tranquilino Sanchez Venegas and the two Mayorals are now formally imprisoned pending further investigations.

In a separate development, Mexico's new ruling party presidential candidate Ernesto Zedillo has moved quickly to relaunch his party's campaign after the assassination of Mr. Colosio, but critics wonder if the uncharismatic economist can win a clean election.

Mr. Zedillo, 42, was thrust into the limelight on March 29 when President Salinas had him named presidential candidate for the PRI to replace the slain Colosio.



## Sanchez beats Sabatini in Amelia Island final

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida (AP) — Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, dedicating her victory to her stricken father, won the Bausch and Lomb Championships for the second straight year Sunday, beating Gabriela Sabatini 6-1, 6-4 to end a streak of 15 consecutive tournaments without a singles title.

"It's always great when you finally win," said Sanchez Vicario, the top-seeded player in the \$400,000 clay-court event. "I played my best, moved the ball well and dominated the match."

The title was the first of the year for Sanchez Vicario, who won four tournaments in 1993 but had gone 0-1 in finals since last May, including losses to Steffi Graf in this year's Australian Open and Virginia Slims of Florida.

Sanchez Vicario's father, Emilio, had a heart attack in Spain five days earlier.

"He's feeling much better, and I'm sure he'll be proud of me," Sanchez Vicario said. "He wanted me to stay and win. I did it for him."

Later Sunday, she and Larisa Neiland captured the doubles crown with a 6-2, 6-7, 6-4 victory over Amanda Coetzer and Ines Gorraebategui.

Sanchez Vicario beat Sabatini for the sixth time in their seven meetings. They also met in the Amelia Island final last year.

Sanchez Vicario broke Sabatini in the first and third games for a 3-0 lead, then broke her again to close out the first set in 37 minutes. Sabatini committed only 18 unforced errors over Sunday's semifinal victory over Lindsay Davenport, but had 14 to Sanchez Vicario's four in the opening set.

Sabatini, a three-time winner of this tournament, settled down to win three straight games for a 3-1 lead in the second set. But she never gained control of the match.

Sanchez Vicario won the next three games, then finished off a fatigued Sabatini by holding serve for a 5-4 lead and breaking the tournament's fourth-seeded player for the match.

"She played a good match," said Sabatini, who has gone nearly two years — 23 consecutive tournaments — without winning a title. "She didn't give me much chance to do anything."

Still, Sabatini was encouraged by her performance in the tournament. She survived a three-set match against Amanda Coetzer, a tough left court player, in the third round, then beat Mary Pierce and Davenport to reach the final.

"I look at the week as a great week," said Sabatini, adding she played with renewed confidence that should help her the best of the season. "I really had a good time out there."

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## National tennis team returns with disappointing results

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's national tennis team Tuesday returns home after taking part in the Davis Cup qualifying matches of the Asia/Oceania zone group 3 held in Qatar April 4-10.

Like the team's coach had predicted prior to their departure, the Kingdom's participation in this year's competition did not yield any change in their classification, nor does the team return with any victorious results.

Jordan's only win was 3-0 over Brunei. The team lost to Uzbekistan, Bahrain and Lebanon. Uzbekistan topped the group standings and will be promoted to group 2 in 1995, while Bahrain, Lebanon, Jordan and Brunei will again remain in group 3 next season.

It was Jordan's sixth Davis Cup participation. The Kingdom's team had played in group 2 alongside more experienced Asian teams like Malaysia, Singapore, Iran and Pakistan for the past three years before being relegated to group 3 following their loss to Malaysia and Iran in the 1993 competition.

Until 1994, the national tennis team had mainly relied on the experienced Hani Al Ali, who had dominated the tennis scene for a decade. However, this year Ali and runner-up Imad Abu Hamda missed the competition and the pressure was on the country's new young champion Laith Al Azzouni, who played his third Davis Cup. His teammates were Samir Rifa'i, Laith Al Kurdi and Wadi' Kawar.

Prior to departure, national team coach Youssef Al Oreibi had told the Jordan Times in a courtesy interview that Azzouni, 16, and Rifa'i, 29, had been regularly practising at the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF) courts three times a week for the past two months. However, Kawar and Kurdi, both 19, have only recently joined the national team after their arrival from the U.S. where both attend university.

"Personally, I am not optimistic of the team scoring a satisfactory result this year. However, you have to understand that there has been a turning point in the country's tennis scene," Oreibi had told the Jordan Times. "The JTF is now very keen on preparing a big number of young players. Just give them a couple of years and you'll see the result yourself," he asserted, pointing out that there were now at least eight young players who would someday well represent the Kingdom in such competitions.

Three promising Jordanian players are now preparing to compete in the qualifying matches for the ITF World Junior Tennis Championship, which will take place in Japan in August.

Abraham Al Hadid of the JTF Monday told the Jordan Times that this would be the first time Jordan plays in such a competition reserved for under-14 players only.

The Kingdom will be represented by Tharwat Al Qaisi, Ahmad Al Hadid and Jamal Olaby.

Jordan will be contesting qualification alongside 11 other Asian teams in the qualifying round which will be held in Thailand May 2-8.

The Kingdom's team will be competing alongside Australia, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Following the qualifying round, three teams will qualify for the world championship.

In addition to the top three Asian teams, 13 other nations will compete in the world championship: six from Europe, two from North America, three from South America, one from Africa in addition to Japan, the host nation.

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In past years, Jordan's national team was unable to display its true quality of play as the team mainly depended on the efforts of Ali and Abu Hamda who would become exhausted in the three-day Davis Cup ties which demand physical fitness and availability of players who would play in doubles and singles matches.

"There is no question that we could have secured a good result with Ali and Abu Hamda, but we hope that the players will benefit from our participation this year as we know the Lebanese and Bahraini teams are very good and have more experienced players," said Oreibi.

Unlike other years, the national team did not have any friendly matches with other countries prior to the competition because two of its members were abroad. Therefore, Azzouni and Rifa'i had to test their preparedness by playing against Iraq's top three ranked players who are now training in Jordan, and regularly played their experienced coach who was Iraq's champion for 14 years before retiring from competitive tennis in 1988.

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## Nigeria wins African Cup

TUNIS (AP) — Emmanuel Amonike scored once in each half to rally Nigeria to its second African Nations Cup title late Sunday, beating Zambia 2-1 and adding to the disappointment of the Zambians who again fell one game short.

It was the first title since 1990 for the "Super Eagles," who finished runner-up in 1984, 1988 and 1990 and third in 1992.

For Zambia, the loss was a bitter blow, having been stopped one game short of the World Cup last October. That was only six months after virtually the entire team was wiped out in a plane crash off the coast of Gabon en route to their first game in the final round of World Cup qualifying.

Following the crash, the team rebounded miraculously around Scottish coach Ian Porterfield, needing only a draw on the final day of qualifying but falling 1-0 to Morocco.

Zambia reached Sunday's final without conceding a goal and again were the sentimental favourites.

"We lost gallantly. I'm very happy with the boys," said Zambia coach Freddie Mwila. "I wish Nigeria well in the World Cup. Hopefully, we'll come back in two years' time and be greater and stronger. Zambia fans should be proud of us. We did enough to win, but we did not."

World Cup-bound Nigeria's victory confirmed its reputation as Africa's best heading into this summer's world championship.

"I am happy," said Nigeria's Dutch coach Clemens Westerhof. "I have proven a point. A lot of people haven't believed in me. This victory will help me psychologically to prepare for the World Cup."

"Before, I really didn't believe that I could go far in the World Cup. With this victory, I now believe I will go far in the World Cup. Before now, I had my doubts."

"I now know I have boys who can make it, but I am prepared for the World Cup."

The rhythm of the game was established early, with Elia Litana giving Zambia the lead in the third minute, heading in a corner kick that went through Nigerian keeper Peter Rufai's arms.

Amonike tied it two minutes later, heading a corner kick that deflected off Zambia keeper James Phiri into the goal.

Amonike then added the game winner in the 47th minute, controlling a cross just behind the penalty spot and beating Phiri from 12 metres.

"I am not upset with the coach for not fielding me before this match," Amonike said. "We have very good players. I have nothing against anyone. I'm just happy that when I was given a chance, I justified myself. To score goals in a national cup final is the greatest thing that ever happened to me."

"My fans back in Egypt and Nigeria will be very happy. I am really on top of the world."

Zambia nearly tied the game minutes later when Kalusha Bwalya found himself unmarked five metres from the goal but Rufai anticipated well and blocked the shot.

Bwalya was one of the few



Photo on top shows Zambian Harrison Chongo (left) being passed by Nigerian Emmanuel Amonike who scored the two victorious goals for his team during the African Nations Cup final in Tunis. Below, happy Nigerian soccer players hold aloft their trophy after the victory (AFP photo)



## Nigerians go wild over cup victory

LAGOS (R) — Nigerians went wild Sunday evening after their national team, the Super Eagles, won the African Nations Cup.

Motorists hooted their horns on the streets of Lagos minutes after the final match of the tournament as alcohol was freely consumed in bars in the Nigerian city.

"God is a Nigerian," one taxi driver pronounced after Zambia hit the post in the last 10 minutes of the final in Tunis which Nigeria won 2-1.

At one bar in Surulere, a middle-class suburb of Lagos, the owner declared drinks were free for all regular patrons.

It was the second time Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, had won the cup. The match was watched on television by millions, including military ruler General

Abacha, in an hour-long telephone conversation with the 22 members of the squad, said a big reception was being prepared for their return to the capital Abuja.

The conversation, which took place Saturday, was relayed on state television just before the final.

The Nigerians will play in the World Cup finals for the first time in the United States next June.

The super eagles have done it. USA here we come," a commentator on state radio exclaimed.

The players are due to receive \$5,000 each for the victory, which the west African nation badly needed to lift people's spirits after months of domestic political and economic crisis.

another opportunity when he was all alone to the side of the goal but the angle was too severe for a clean shot. With five minutes left, he hit the side of the post.

Yekini was on the verge of an African record, having scored 13 times in African Nations Cup finals, one short of the mark established by Laurent Pokou of Ivory Coast.

In the match for third place the 1992 champions, Ivory Coast, beat Mali, 3-1.

Mali was the surprise team of the tournament. It beat Tunisia 2-0 in the tournament opener, a result resulted in the firing of Tunisian coach Youssef Zouaoui.

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## Russia extends deadline for mutinous players

MOSCOW (R) — The Russian Soccer Federation Monday said it would give rebel players a few extra days to decide whether they would end their mutiny and play for the national side in this summer's World Cup finals.

A week ago the federation gave the 14 rebels just five days to hack down from their demands that coach Pavel Sadryin be sacked for incompetence. But by the deadline late Friday only two of the foreign-based players had replied.

Federation Vice-President Nikita Simonyan said soccer chiefs had agreed to a request by several players that the deadline be extended to this Thursday to give them more time to decide.

"We consider that those who did not ask for more time are refusing to play," he said in a telephone interview.

"We won't lose — they will... They don't want to play and we don't need them. Time is passing and we can't wait any longer," he added, but declined to name those players who wanted the deadline extended.

The unprecedented five-month mutiny has seriously damaged Russia's chances in the first World Cup since the break-up of the Soviet Union in late 1991.

The one bright spot for Sadryin was the decision by

most of the contingent from Russian champions Spartak Moscow to play for the national side.

But Spartak midfielder Valery Karpin, one of the most promising prospects, has made it clear he will not hack down. Dynamo Moscow midfielder Igor Dobrovolsky, back in Russia after an unsuccessful spell abroad, will also not play.

"Karpin doesn't want to play for the national side and we are not upset by this in the slightest," Simonyan said.

"Eight Spartak players joined the squad. This is a good reinforcement. At the end of May we will make a final list of the 22 players," he said.

Dobrovolsky told Moscow television Sunday that those players refusing to play at the World Cup hoped to take part in the 1996 European championships in England. Sadryin's contract runs out at the end of this year.

Those still holding out include Inter Milan midfielder and national captain Igor Shalimov, Manchester United winger Andrei Kanchelskis and strikers Igor Kolyvanov from Foggia and Sergei Kiryakov from Karlsruhe.

A replacement team of largely untried players was lucky to escape with a 0-0 draw against Ireland last month. Further friendly are planned against Turkey and Slovenia.

The 22-year-old, who suffers from tendinitis in both knees, entered the Barcelona tournament seeded seventh.

Krajicek, who has one of the tour's fastest serves, took control of the match with ease after he managed to fend off Costa's challenge and win the tie breaker in the second set.

"I came here just to test my knees and my physical condition, but I was not expecting that much. I should keep that attitude more often," Krajicek said. Feeling less pressure to perform well improved his play, Krajicek added.

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## Krajicek wins Spanish title

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Dutchman Richard Krajicek overcame Spaniard Carlos Costa by three sets to nil Sunday to win the \$300,000 Conde de Godo ATP tennis tournament.

Playing his first singles event since taking five months off to battle tendinitis, Krajicek defeated Costa 6-4, 7-6 (8-6), 6-2 for the clay-court title.

In the tournament's doubles final, Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov and David Rikl of the Czech Republic came back from one set down to defeat American Jim Courier and Spain's Javier Sanchez Vicario 5-7, 6-1, 6-4.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Three civilians wounded in S. Lebanon

TYRE (R) — Israeli-backed militiamen strafed a village in South Lebanon with heavy machineguns on Monday, wounding three civilians, U.N. sources said. They said the three were wounded when South Lebanon Army (SLA) militiamen at Tallouneh post on the edge of Israel's occupation zone opened up with machineguns on the village of Qabirha, just north of the buffer strip. Israeli and SLA forces, which routinely strafe areas outside the zone to guard against possible guerrilla attacks, killed three Palestinians attacking their posts on Saturday.

## Russians release detained plane

TEL AVIV (R) — A private Israeli airline said one of its planes, forced by Russia to land for alleged violation of the country's airspace on Saturday, returned safely to Israel on the same day. The Aeroflot Gulfstream-159, one of a flight from Tbilisi, Georgia to Tel Aviv, was carrying the pregnant wife of the deputy prime minister of Tajikistan for urgent treatment in Israel, a company spokesman said on Monday. He said Russian air controllers mistakenly contended the private jet was flying too close to Russian airspace and ordered it to land at the Black Sea city of Sochi. "The Russians didn't even apologise for their mistake," the Aeroflot spokesman said. An air defence force spokesman in Moscow said on Monday a decision was made to scramble military aircraft and force the plane down. He said the crew and passengers were being held for inquiries. But the Aeroflot spokesman said the plane and everyone on board were allowed to take off on Saturday after its documentation was checked. The pregnant woman, who also suffers from heart problems, is now in hospital in Israel.

## Arafat to Strasbourg this week

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat is expected to attend the European Parliament in Strasbourg on Wednesday, sources said on Monday. Mr. Arafat has also received an invitation from the "Davos Forum" to attend a meeting in Switzerland where he is expected on Friday, the sources added. Mr. Arafat's appearance in Strasbourg would be the same day that Israeli troops are supposed to have completed a withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho area under terms of a peace accord signed in September. Details of the withdrawal and related issues are still being negotiated.

## Kuwait premier will pick cabinet soon

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's prime minister said in remarks published on Monday he would shortly announce a new cabinet but asked for patience while he finalised his team. "Leave this thing for a surprise. Beauty is in the surprise, brother Mohammed," Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah was quoted as telling Mohammed Al Sager, editor-in-chief of Al Qabas newspaper. "People, please give us enough time, after that we will give you not just one answer but all the answers... the time is pretty close," he was quoted as saying in a telephone interview. The cabinet submitted its resignation on Saturday following an announcement by Sheikh Saad on April 4 that he would reshuffle the cabinet to introduce a new era of reform. Sheikh Saad has not said when he would implement the reshuffle but it is expected within the next 10 days.

## Israeli settler sentenced to 3 months

TEL AVIV (R) — Baruch Marzel, detained without trial for three months last week for heading Israel's anti-Arab Kach movement, was sentenced to three months on Monday for a riot three years ago. Israel's Idm news agency said the court handed down the sentence to Marzel for his part in disturbing a gathering of Israeli Arab leaders outside the prime minister's office. Police captured Mr. Marzel last week after a month-long manhunt. The government cracked down on hardcore militants of the Kach and Kahane Hai (Kahane Lives) groups after an Israeli gunman killed more than 30 Palestinians in a Hebron mosque. Israel Radio quoted the judge as saying Mr. Marzel was convicted of crimes 10 times to the last 14 years.

## UAE may ban foreign marriages

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) may consider legal restrictions to discourage male citizens from marrying foreign women instead of local ones, a UAE newspaper reported on Monday. The Gulf News daily reported the director-general of the UAE's marriage fund, which gives soft loans to help UAE men pay the high costs of local weddings — as saying he would propose new laws to make it difficult for citizens to wed foreigners. "The marriage of nationals to foreigners (has) become a threat to UAE society because of its negative influence on the nation's social, cultural, psychological and moral characteristics," Jamal Al Beib was reported as saying in a lecture to an audience of UAE women. The marriage fund was set up by UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan in 1992, and gives grants of up to 70,000 dirhams (\$19,000) to local men who marry UAE women. Officials and tribal leaders in the Gulf Arab state — where three-quarters of the population are expatriates — have said soaring costs of lavish parties, expensive gifts and dowries had led numbers of local men to choose foreign wives. The marriage fund was promised 150 million dirhams (\$41 million) in the UAE's 1994 budget, almost double the previous year's allocation.

## UAE court orders maid to be flogged

DUBAI (R) — A maid working in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been sentenced to 50 strokes of the lash for an adulterous affair that led to her becoming pregnant, a local newspaper said on Monday. The Gulf News daily said the maid, aged 25 and identified only as S.A., was let off a two-month jail sentence for the same offence by an appeal court in the UAE emirate of Sharjah, which applies Islamic Sharia law. The paper did not say what country the woman came from and did not disclose the identity or nationality of the man. Thousands of maids from developing countries like the Philippines and Sri Lanka work in the UAE, a wealthy oil exporting state. Gulf News reported two weeks ago that another woman, identified as Amina and aged 27, had her appeal rejected by a UAE court against a sentence of 180 lashes for the same offence. Physical punishments such as floggings are not carried out during pregnancy.

## Arafat loyalist killed in shootout

SDON (AP) — A senior loyalist of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat was killed in a shootout with opponents at Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp Monday, security sources said. They said Hussein Abu Zeid, among the most senior officers of Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction, was fatally wounded in a firefight with dissidents opposed to the PLO-Israeli peace accord of Sept. 13. The clash occurred on a road intersection inside the teeming camp on the southeastern outskirts of Lebanon's southern port city of Sidon at 2 p.m. (1100 GMT), the sources said. The sources gave no further details beyond saying Abu Zeid became the fourth Arafat loyalist to be killed in Lebanon since the signing of the limited autonomy accord by Israel and the PLO.

## U.N. chief seeks rapid action force

FRANKFURT (R) — The United Nations needs a rapid deployment force of about 40,000 troops to respond quickly to crises, Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said in an interview published on Monday. About 20 member countries should train around 2,000 soldiers each in peacekeeping to allow the world body to bring together an emergency force within a week when needed, he told the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.



LOOTING THE DEAD: A Rwandan looter on Monday takes away a bed from a house where residents were killed by bullets and machetes. Soldiers on Monday rampaged through hospitals in the Rwandan capital Kigali to finish off wounded patients as fighting continued between government forces and the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front (see page one) (AFP photo)

## Senior Turkish official to visit Iraq this week

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Turkish official plans to visit Iraq this week for talks on the closed Iraqi oil pipeline that runs from Iraqi oil fields to Turkey's Mediterranean port and other bilateral issues, diplomats said Monday.

Turkish Ambassador Mehmet Ali Fırtınçelik confirmed that Ozdemir Sanberk, under-secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who is now visiting Jordan, will be leaving for Baghdad on Wednesday.

The visit will be in return for a visit Iraqi Foreign Minister Under-Secretary Riyad Al Qaisi paid to Turkey in January, the ambassador said. He said the talks would include issues related to the oil pipeline. He declined to elaborate.

Other diplomatic sources said Turkey and Iraq would also discuss means to ease the sanctions and to revive the flow of Iraqi oil through the twin pipeline.

Turkey closed the pipeline immediately after the U.N. Council imposed a sweeping trade embargo against Iraq following the August 1990 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"Our position has not changed on Iraq continues to hurt the people of Iraq," the Turkish official said. "It has also created a very heavy economic burden for Turkey. The same problem also exists for Jordan. Cooperation between Iraq and the U.N. must be intensified. The U.N. long-term monitoring programme must be put fully into practice without delay and be effectively implemented in order that the oil embargo is lifted."

## Yemen has four guns per person — minister

Group alleges torture

SANAA (R) — Yemen has 50 million guns, representing more than four weapons per person, Interior Minister Yahya Mohammad Al Muta-wakil was reported as saying.

"There are 50 million guns in our country. It is impossible that we with our resources confront these armed people, growing crime, the (impact of) political crisis and tribal disputes," he was quoted as saying in an interview with Al Gumburiyah daily.

It was not clear if Mr. Muta-wakil was referring only to personal weapons held privately by Yemenis.

The interview appeared in the Sunday issue of Al Gumburiyah, which was published in the city of Taiz south of Sanaa and appeared in the capital's markets on Monday.

For Yemenis, especially in the tribal north, possession of arms has traditionally been an integral part of their lives, used to defend themselves against attacks by other tribes.

Many Yemenis own Kalashnikov or M-16 assault rifles, and tribal and political sources said big tribes, especially in the north, owned rocket launchers, machineguns and even heavier weapons.

"Barring aircraft and tanks which the tribes do not possess, their other weapons can match those possessed by the state," one source said.

Mr. Mutawakil said the law in Yemen "unfortunately does not ban the carrying of arms. It legalised carrying, possessing and dealing in arms... making weapons like water and air (available to all)."

He said a committee was drafting a new law to regulate the carrying of arms.

"In our country, especially in the northern provinces, we have one policeman per 10,000 people, and one police station per 100,000 people," the minister told the paper, adding that the normal world ratio is one policeman for every 1,000 people and a police station for every 10,000.

"Our police stations, at best, have 30 per cent of the required resources such as weapons, means of transport and communications," he added.

changed on the sanctions against Iraq," Ambassador İrtizemelik told the Jordan Times. Ankara has called for an easing of the sanctions but has reaffirmed that Iraq should abide by the various U.N. Security Council resolutions on the Gulf crisis.

In an interview with the Jordan Times (see page 3), Mr. Sanberk himself said: "As regional country, Turkey attaches importance to an early return to normalcy in the region. We wish that Iraq once again assumes her place in the network of international relations. To this end, the framework drawn up by the U.N. Security Council resolutions must be completely filled. Iraq must adopt a clear stand to give confidence to her neighbour Kuwait."

"Embargo on Iraq continues to hurt the people of Iraq," the Turkish official said. "It has also created a very heavy economic burden for Turkey. The same problem also exists for Jordan. Cooperation between Iraq and the U.N. must be intensified. The U.N. long-term monitoring programme must be put fully into practice without delay and be effectively implemented in order that the oil embargo is lifted."

Compliance on destruction and long-term monitoring of the weapons systems is a prerequisite to lifting the oil embargo on Iraq, though the United States has sought to add other conditions including recognition of Kuwait's border.

Mr. Dillon said the team would perform a semi-annual hydrological survey, taking water samples from around the region to try to detect any nuclear activity and more importantly to set a baseline from which to measure any future activity.

"The team will also design a surveillance installation at a machine tool workshop," he said.

Many facilities in Iraq are dual-use, able to be used for military or civilian purposes. One of the challenges in long-term monitoring is to set up cameras or other sensors to be sure the facilities are not converted to prohibited uses.

Mr. Dillon's team is the 73rd under the U.N. special commission on Iraq (UNSCOM), the 24th under the IAEA, the U.N. agency which works with UNSCOM on nuclear matters.

An UNSCOM biological weapons team went in on Friday, and a ballistic weapons team which came out from Baghdad on Friday plans to return in approximately another week. A chemical weapons team had been in Iraq at the end of March.

Mr. Dillon, who will be spending 12 days in Iraq, said "It is anticipated that the cooperative atmosphere of the last few inspections continues."

Baghdad has been cooperating with the inspectors in recent months, in contrast with earlier moves that led to several threats of U.S. military strikes.

When satisfied that no loopholes remain, the commission can recommend that the U.N. Security Council lift an embargo on vital Iraqi oil exports clamped since its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990.

Inspectors will not say who that is likely, and their leader Rolf Ekeus has stopped referring to specific periods.

Television cameras also are going up at military industrial sites where long-range missiles could be developed secretly. The U.N. team of biological weapons experts presently is in Baghdad to prepare for monitoring in that field.

Chemical weapons experts have tagged hundreds of pieces of equipment used to produce pesticides and pharmaceuticals that can be converted to prohibited chemicals. They are deploying equipment that will absorb air samples for routine testing.

## IAEA team prepares long-term monitoring in Iraq

MANAMA (Agencies) — U.N. inspectors left for Baghdad on Monday to prepare for long-term monitoring to ensure that Iraq does not resuscitate its nuclear programme.

An official at the U.N. regional headquarters in Bahrain said the 15-member team, headed by Britain's Gary Dillon, took off on Monday morning after arriving from the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Sunday night.

"The team will continue their preparatory activities related to ongoing (long-term) monitoring and verification," Mr. Dillon said in a statement before leaving.

The U.N. Security Council banned Iraq's nuclear activities and three other weapons programmes after the 1990-91 Gulf war.

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## Malek resigns as Algerian premier; Sifi is successor

TUNIS (Agencies) — Algerian President Liamine Zeroual accepted the resignation of Prime Minister Rodha Malek oo Mooday and appointed Mokdad Sifi, equipment minister in the outgoing government, to succeed him, the official APS news agency reported.

Mr. Malek submitted his resignation and that of his cabinet to Mr. Zeroual, who accepted it, the communique said. It did not give a reason for Mr. Malek's stepping down.

Mr. Malek became premier last September, at a time when Muslim fundamentalists stepped up their violent campaign against the government, spreading their ambushes to foreigners.

The insurrection began more than two years ago when the government in January 1992 cancelled elections for a new parliament that fundamentalists were winning.

More than 3,000 people have been killed since then in violence blamed on militant Muslims.

Mr. Sifi, 53, was trained in physics and chemistry in Algeria and Paris. He has served in high-ranking posts in the ministries of commerce, public works and finance.

Mr. Malek's resignation comes two days after Algeria accepted an aid plan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the condition that it undertakes liberal structural reforms to move Algeria's

heavily centralised economy more towards a market-oriented structure.

Mr. Malek was a strong supporter of the IMF programme, details of which have not been made public, although it involves discussions with Algeria's creditors to reduce the country's foreign debt of \$26 billion.

Mr. Malek had replaced Belaid Abdul Salam who held the premiership and the post of economics minister for a year. Mr. Malek's ascension came a month before Muslim fundamentalists stepped up their violent campaign against the government, widening their random attacks to include foreigners.

Mr. Malek, a modernist firmly opposed to religious fundamentalism, resigned once before, in February following a national conference intended to bring Algeria's fractious political parties together.

Most parties, however, boycotted or walked out. The fundamentalists, whose top leaders have been in jail for more than two years, did not take part.

Mr. Malek was reappointed prime minister in that cabinet reshuffling that left little changed.

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## COLUMN

## Chinatown gang leader to return to New York

HONG KONG (R) — The alleged leader of a New York Chinatown gang wanted for murder and kidnapping dropped Monday his fight against extradition to the United States and will return from Hong Kong voluntarily.

Defense lawyer Dixon Tang told the Eastern Magistrates Court that Kwok Ling-Kay and his bodyguard Li Xinghua had "decided to consent to and not contest extradition."

Mr. Kwok has been identified in media reports as the "dragon head" or chief of the Fok Ching triad gang. New York Police accuse the gang of organising the voyage of the decrepit freighter Golden Venture, which ran aground off Queens last year carrying nearly 300 illegal immigrants from Asia.

Mr. Kwok, who listened to the proceedings partially through an interpreter, said nothing but smiled frequently during the brief hearing. Mr. Tang gave no reason for the change of heart since the initial hearing in November, when both men vowed to fight extradition.

Roger McMeans of the Hong Kong government's Legal Department said he was not aware of any plea bargaining surrounding the case. Both men were likely to return to the United States as early as this week. Mr. Tang said both had also waived their right to habeas corpus, which would have given them 15 days to reconsider their decision.

Mr. Kwok, 31, was arrested in Hong Kong last year. U.S. authorities had sought his extradition to face 31 charges including murder and kidnapping. They include a shooting outside a Manhattan gambling club in which one person died and the attempted murder of two former members of the Fok Ching triad.

Ex-Chinese warlord cashes in on legacy

TAIPEI (R) — Former Chinese warlord Chang Hsueh-Liang, who kidnapped Nationalist leader Chiang Kai-Shek only to spend decades under house arrest, has turned a tidy profit on his past. Mr. Chang's Chinese art collection was auctioned Sunday for Taiwan dollars 133 million (\$5 million), almost four times the pre-sale estimate.

"The special attraction of the owner of the collection had no doubt helped to make this a successful sale," said Rita Wong, managing director of Sotheby's Taiwan. "A very significant portion of the lots went up to several times above the estimate, some even up to over 10 times or more."

All 207 lots were sold and Sotheby's Taiwan will present Mr. Chang with a pair of white gloves. "This is what we call a 'white glove' sale. It is rare and happens only once every 10 years on the average," a Sotheby's spokeswoman said. "The collection is definitely worth buying but some of the prices were ridiculously high... Many people wanted to buy one or two items of Chang's collection for remembrance."

Hong Kong antiques dealer Robert Chang, who is not related to the seller, told reporters. The collection, assembled over 70 years, consisted of more than 700 works — traditional ink and water-colour paintings, scroll paintings, folding fans, fan-shaped paintings and works of calligraphy from the 12th century.

Charges dropped over listeria death of twins

NELSON, New Zealand (R) — A New Zealand court Monday dropped manslaughter charges against bosses of a seafood company in the case of new-born twins who died after their mother contracted listeria poisoning. A high court judge in the town of Nelson, in the north of the South Island, said no indictment should be made against John Turner and Duncan McFarlane, who had faced two manslaughter charges over the deaths of Emma and Jeffrey Lamh. Prosecutors in the case said the twins died because they were born four and a half months early, and that the premature birth was caused by listeria poisoning from mussels. Vickie Lamb, the mother, told the hearing she ate the mussels on medical advice to counter an iron deficiency during her pregnancy and developed listeria septicemia, a disease which can affect expectant mothers.

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